Daily Report

Latin America

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CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Alleged Arms Dealer Tied To Jamaican Government *[CANA]* 1

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

OAS Human Rights Commission Opens 77th Session *[CANA]* 2
ALADI Chief on Mexico Foreign Ministers Meeting *[Montevideo Radio]* 2

CARIBBEAN

Cuba

New TV Channel To Be Inaugurated 26 July *[Havana Radio]* 3
More Reportage on Simulated U.S. Air Attack *[Havana TV]* 3
Castro Address at Second UJC-FAR Meeting *[Havana TV]* 3
Soviet Ambassador Assesses Bilateral Relations *[Havana TV]* 6
Interview published in GRANMA *[Havana TV]* 6
Envoy to Moscow on Relations With USSR *[Havana TV]* 6
Castro Attends Ceremony Marking Soviet Relations *[Havana TV]* 6
Havana Cites Pope on Possibility of Visit *[Havana TV]* 6
Domestic Trade Minister Reports on PRC Visit *[Havana TV]* 7
CTC Secretariat on Sugar Industry Measures *[Havana TV]* 7

Dominican Republic

Electoral Board: 'All Is Ready' for Elections *[Santo Domingo Radio]* 7

Haiti

State Council Communique Asks Reform Measures *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 7
OAS Member Comments on Elections, Assistance *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 8
Political Coalition Not To Field Sole Candidate *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 8
New Violence in Capital; 6 Dead, 6 Wounded *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 8
Capital's New Police Chief Comments on Security *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 9
Father Aristide Addresses Rally in U.S. *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 9

MEXICO

Government Confirms No Relations With Vatican *[NOTIMEX]* 11
Pope Gives Homily on Country's Problems *[Madrid EFE]* 11
Pope Meets Diplomats on Refugees, Foreign Debt *[AFP]* 12
* 'Peasant Torch' Head Discusses Organization *[PROCESO 26 Feb]* 12

CENTRAL AMERICA

Costa Rica

Leaders Arrive for Calderon Inauguration *[San Jose Radio]* 16
President Calderon Delivers Inaugural Speech *[San Jose Radio]* 16
Calderon on Future Summit, Cuba, Integration *[San Jose Radio]* 20

El Salvador

Cristiani Delivers Speech on 'Soldiers Day' *[San Salvador Radio]* 21
FMLN Communique Condemns Government Statements *[San Salvador Radio]* 23
Three Americans Arrested in San Vicente *[San Salvador Radio]* 23
Colonel Ponce Denies Divisions in Armed Forces *[EL DIARIO DE HOY 7 May]* 23
FMLN Warns Military Change Will Affect Talks *[ACAN]* 23

Honduras

* Ecological Devastation Endangers Water Supply *[EL HERALDO 21 Mar]* 24

Nicaragua

Godoy Not Given Powers in Chamorro's Absence *[ACAN]* 25
First Group of Rebels Surrenders Weapons *[ACAN]* 26
Commander Franklin Delivers Speech *[Managua Radio]* 26
Central Bank Devalues Cordoba by 43 Percent *[Managua Radio]* 26
Labor Minister's Salary Measures Criticized *[Managua Radio]* 27
Chamorro, Godoy Differences Analyzed *[EL NUEVO DIARIO 3 May]* 28

Panama

PRD Official on Construction of U.S. Bases *[Mexico City EXCELSIOR 28 Apr]* 29
Justines' Chauffeur Makes Statement to Southcom *[EL PANAMA AMERICA 7 May]* 30
Attorney General on Chauffer's Remarks *[Panama City TV]* 32
Special Prosecutor Miranda Suspended *[Panama City TV]* 32
Marchosky on Questions Sent to Attorney General *[Panama City TV]* 33
Electoral Tribunal President Pulice Resigns *[ACAN]* 33
Newspaper Owner Attacks Arias Calderon *[LA PRENSA 7 May]* 33

SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina

Economy Minister Addresses IMF Committee *[NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS]* 35
Menem on Montoneros Participation in Government *[NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS]* 35
Navy Incorporates Missile-Launching Corvette *[LA PRENSA 6 May]* 36

Brazil

Environmental Recovery Project To Be Implemented *[Brasilia Radio]* 36
Infrastructure Minister on Privatization Process *[Brasilia Radio]* 36
Increased Drug Production in Sao Paulo State *[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 6 May]* 37
Bank of Brazil Eliminating Over 17,000 Jobs *[Brasilia Radio]* 37
Economy Minister Returns From United States *[Rio de Janeiro TV]* 37
Southeastern Military Chief Assumes Command *[FOLHA DE SAO PAULO 5 May]* 38

Chile

Pinochet Urged To Defend His Government *[Santiago Radio]* 38
Economy Minister on Taxes, Terrorist Escalade *[Santiago Radio]* 38
Humanist Party-Green Party Alliance Registers *[Santiago Radio]* 38

Colombia

Drug Cartel Official Accused in Assassinations *[Hamburg DPA]* 39
Fighting Reported in Several Departments *[Bogota Radio]* 39
Car Bomb Explodes in Risaralda; One Killed *[Bogota Radio]* 39

Paraguay

Rodriguez Supports Antidrug Fight in Colombia *[ULTIMA HORA 7 May]* 40

Peru

Vargas Llosa Resumes Race, Criticizes Fujimori *[Buenos Aires DYN]* 40
FRG Foreign Ministry Official Meets Fujimori *[Lima TV]* 40
Government Announces Three Cabinet Changes *[Lima TV]* 41

Alleged Arms Dealer Tied To Jamaican Government

FL0805191590 Bridgetown CANA in English
1756 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, 8 May (CANA)—The GLEANER newspaper reported Tuesday that Maurice Sarfati, an Israeli businessman implicated in an Antigua and Barbuda arms scandal, is a business partner of the Jamaican Government. His lawyers are the Jamaican company of Rattray, Patterson, Rattray of which the island's deputy prime minister, P.J. Patterson, and Justice Minister Carl Rattray are senior partners, according to the GLEANER report.

Sarfati, as a shareholder in Worldwide Promotions Ltd., owns equity in Jamaica Drip Irrigation in partnership with the National Investment Bank of Jamaica (NIBJ) and Plastrogavaet, an Israeli commune. Sarfati and Eli Tisona, co-owners of Worldwide Promotions, came to Jamaica in the early 1980s as foreign investors and invested in promoted and managed Jamaica Agro Products, which administered the failed multi-million dollar spring plains winter vegetable project, as well as Jamaica Aqualapia, a fish farming project, and Jamaica Drip Irrigation.

According to the GLEANER report, Sarfati left the island in 1984 following a dispute over financial matters with Tisona Brothers. He, however, retained his equity in Worldwide Promotions. He has been accused of involvement in the transshipment of Israeli arms through Antigua to Colombian drug dealers in April 1989. The Antigua and Barbuda Government has ordered a probe of the shipment, which it said it had never ordered.

The GLEANER [report] said there had been legal wrangling between Sarfati and the Tisonas and between Worldwide Promotions and the NIBJ. The cases are still unresolved in Jamaica and the United States. Sarfati was being represented by Patterson, who has since turned over his client to another partner.

Sarfati was involved in a 150-acre melon farm from which Galia melons were shipped to Europe. Some persons alleged he acted as an agent in several arms shipments, some of them destined for the Contras and for Panama. He is believed to be in Tel Aviv.

Antiguan Prime Minister Vere Bird Snr. has called for Sarfati's extradition but the Israeli Government has not complied. Bird's son, Vere Jr., has also been implicated in the arms scandal.

OAS Human Rights Commission Opens 77th Session

FL0805165390 Bridgetown CANA in English 1511 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Washington, 8 May (CANA)—The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights has opened its 77th session here with an expression of "hopeful optimism" on the human rights situation in Haiti.

"The general impression we have on the situation in Haiti is one of hopeful optimism, rather than the contrary," said diplomat Oliver Jackman of Barbados, the outgoing chairman of the commission as he opened the 77th session, which is scheduled to continue through 18 May.

"We are perhaps not so hopeful with regard to El Salvador," he told those attending the ceremony Monday [7 May].

The commission immedia ely elected its new authorities for 1990-1991. The new chairman is Leo Valladares Lanza of Honduras, while the new first vice-chairman is Patrick L. Robinson, of Jamaica, and the second vice-chairman, Oscar Lujan Fappiano, of Argentina.

The OAS Human Rights Commission is expected to approve its annual report on the situation of those rights in the continent. This report will be considered by the OAS General Assembly at its 20th regular session, which will open in Asuncion, Paraguay, on 4 June, 1990.

Jackman told the commission that in the year transpired since he was elected chairman "the world has undergone a series of extraordinary changes.... all tending to enhance the rights of the individual human being in precisely those areas which our American convention on human rights was designed to protect and promote."

"We all watched," he said, "through the miracle of instant satellite television, the physical tearing down of the Berlin Wall, one of the most powerful symbols of denial of human rights of the 20th century. We witnessed the events in Poland, Romania, Hungary, Czechoslovakia; free and fair elections have taken place or are in immediate prospect in countries where such a basic tenet of human rights was considered by many of us to be the stuff of dreams."

ALADI Chief on Mexico Foreign Ministers Meeting

PY0805184090 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT May 90

[Excerpts] Commenting on the results of the meeting held recently in Mexico by the foreign ministers of the member countries of the Latin American Integration Association, ALADI, Jorge Luis Ordonez, the General Secretary of ALADI, said that the association will operate in other sectors to promote regional integration.

He added that although no agreements on custom tariffs were achieved during this meeting, the ALADI foreign ministers reasserted the predominant role of ALADI in the Latin American integration process. [Words indistinct] strengthened ties at the trade, financial, monetary, and transportation levels.

He said that the meeting established that the foreign ministers will meet at least once a year, in the second half of the year.

[Begin Ordonez recording] [passage omitted] This meeting concluded that the foreign ministers will meet at least once a year. This shows the great interest all countries have in ALADI's role and in achieving overall Latin American integration. [passage omitted]

It is obvious that we could have achieved much better results in this meeting, but we do not believe a lack of agreement on a single issue (?will impede us from achieving a general agreement). [end recording]

Cuba

New TV Channel To Be Inaugurated 26 July

FL0805134390 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1222 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] The Telecenter of Havana City, called CHTV, began its transmission test period yesterday, 7 May. CHTV began transmitting on the frequencies normally used by Tele Rebelde.

Jorge Lezcano, member of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Central Committee and first secretary of the PCC in Havana, and Enrique Roman Hernandez, president of the Cuban Radio and Television Institute attended the first transmission test of the Telecenter of Havana, which will carry special programming for the residents of Havana City.

CHTV is broadcasting from a studio set up on the 24th floor of the Habana Libre Hotel. The CHTV programs will reflect the social and economic transformations experienced by Havana City through the creative work of its residents. The transmissions will include, among other things, information on cultural, recreational, and sports events taking place in Havana. CHTV will broadcast for one hour Monday through Friday. CHTV will carry an information magazine and a variety show. The new Havana City television channel will be officially inaugurated on 26 July when CHTV will increase its daily broadcasting time by two hours. On 26 July, CHTV will transmit from 1500 to 1800.

More Reportage on Simulated U.S. Air Attack

FL0805123090 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] The newspaper BASTION, official organ of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, reported that the U.S. Armed Forces conducted another simulated air attack against our western provinces in the morning of 5 May 1990 as part of its policy of pressure within the framework of the Global Shield 90 exercises, which together with Ocean Venture and Defex were denounced by the Cuban press last Sunday, 29 April.

As in previous years, the simulated air attack was conducted with Super Fortress B-52 planes covered by fighter planes based in Florida. The B-52 caused thousands of deaths during the attack on Vietnam. The exercise, strategic exploration aviation, fulfilled missions north of our territory to obtain information and achieve more accuracy with its bombers. The most active period took place on 5 May. For several hours, strategic bomber planes armed with bombs and rockets took off almost simultaneously from their bases and dangerously approached their targets, including the northern area of our western provinces where they conducted a simulated launching of their weapons and later returned to their bases.

This time, the total number of planes participating in the exercises against the USSR was slightly lower than other years but the same number of crafts participated against our country. This shows the importance given to Cuba by the planners of the maneuvers. At the same time, air and naval landing were conducted in Puerto Rico as part of the Ocean Venture exercise. Among the participant forces are units of the 82d Airborne Division, the 101st Assault Wave Division, 24th Infantry Division, 10th Light Mountain Infantry Division, 2d Navy Division, and 75th Ranger Regiment.

At this time, part of the participating naval forces is apparently moving from areas near Puerto Rico toward the continental U.S. territory.

Also, the most effective stage of the Defex exercises took place at the Guantanamo Navy Base on 4 May afternoon with the taking over of defensive positions at night and the partial training of evacuation of the civilian personnel.

The carrying out of these exercises, which have not ended yet, has been strongly rejected internationally. U.S. officials are quick to state publicly that they are routine maneuvers and do not threaten Cuban sovereignty.

Castro Address at Second UJC-FAR Meeting

FL0805160590 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 May 90

["Excerpt" of address by President Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba, to the second meeting of leaders and militants of the Union of Young Communists, UJC, in the Revolutionary Armed Forces, FAR, in Havana on 28 April—recorded]

[Text] All right, comrades, I am going to address this meeting. [applause] I thought you would ask me to talk to you. I knew you would ask me to talk, but under one condition: You want me to be brief. Do not laugh, [crowd giggles] because I will keep my word. I will be brief. I do not have much to say about the meeting itself. Everything has been said here. In fact, Comrade Raul [Castro] summarized this meeting well. He even cited the statements made by the many comrades whose participation stood out during the meeting. I do not think there is any doubt about the importance and value of this meeting. We have been listening to praises for the meeting and its topics of discussions for two days.

If there is anything interesting or relatively new that I could add here is that we are experiencing truly exceptional times. I know that the young people are not discouraged if they are told they are living exceptional times. I believe that they would be discouraged if they were told that we are living ordinary time, without problems, without worries, without risks.

It has been said more than once that we are living exceptional times, but that it is a matter of having

exceptional times inside our country. Of course, exceptional times, such as the October crisis, have shaken the world. The development of that situation involved practically all humankind. The exceptional time I am referring too, however, is of another nature. It is a truly exceptional time in terms of the role our country should play.

There were more of us before. There was a truly socialist community before. Now, there are socialist countries, but not as many as there were around the time of the triumph of the Cuban revolution, for example, or when the October crisis took place. Today, our country has to play a very special role.

Many thought that the Cuban revolution was going to collapse like other revolutions throughout the world collapsed when serious problems began to appear in East Europe during the second half of last year and when those countries began to collapse one by one. Many thought our revolution had to collapse as if it were a tower of meringue or a house of cards. The imperialists began making their opportunist estimations on what would be the consequences for Cuba from the problems in East Europe. When they saw the objective difficulties, they said: No, Cuba will be unable to resist the consequences of that situation. They did not see the subjective consequences of that situation as far as Cuba is concerned.

I have repeatedly stressed, and I will always emphasize, the enormous efforts that the Soviets have made and are making to continue with their cooperation with Cuba. However, when the Yankees saw the objective circumstances that were appearing and developing in the Soviet Union, they filled themselves with hopes that the difficulties were going to be so large that the Soviet Union would be unable to continue conducting the type of cooperation it has maintained with Cuba up until this time. The Yankees thought that in view of the problems inside the USSR, cooperation with Cuba would be seriously affected. They know that we get fuel, raw material, equipment, and armament from the USSR. They are aware of how important Soviet cooperation is for our country. And they filled themselves with hopes. They thought that the Cuban revolution had no chance to save itself and that therefore there was no need to negotiate with a revolutionary country that was going to sink irremediably.

Perhaps among their estimations, the imperialists created further confusion and once again underestimated the Cuban revolution, people, working class, peasants, students, and combatants as a result of the phenomenon that was taking place in Eastern Europe. The events taking place in Europe encouraged the imperialists' imagination, but then they changed their attitude completely.

They almost began to make postrevolutionary plans based on all those events in Eastern Europe. The worms in Miami started to pack up their things to return to Cuba. They were only waiting for the day and time when the Cuban revolution collapsed, because according to them it had to collapse. [Castro pounds on podium] They got the meringue mixed up with the steel. Oh yes, yes, yes. They got mud mixed up with steel, and as they dug up in the mud, they found some hard, very hard and sharp things. They found things that had deep foundations. Those things did not move. Nothing can move those things. They started to discover those things, but of course that is no reason for them to rectify their attitude.

I can tell you that at present they are more irritated than ever and, therefore, more dangerous than ever. Obviously, what I want to tell you is this. I told myself: Well, if they ask me to speak at the meeting, I will talk to them about this. You are going back to your units after the meeting. Raul was clear and precise about that. He said we must be alert to avoid surprises.

If the imperialists decide to carry out a surprise attack on our country, they would do precisely that. They would disguise its blow with the movements of a military exercise. They would hide their true intentions behind those exercises. After all, they are so shameless. We would create the perfect conditions for an aggression if we are off guard and if we keep our arms folded. What we have to prevent by all means is a surprise imperialist aggression.

We have been studying the whole situation of the Armed Forces, the fortifications we are building, etc. The situation is good. We have made a great deal of progress. Fortunately, we have been working on this for the last 10 years. We have been working very hard. We have been preparing our entire population for the war. The truth is that if the enemies really start believing that the attack, the adventure will cost them very little, they will feel more encouraged to carry it out. We have to constantly show the imperialists that any aggression against Cuba will cost them very dearly and will end in defeat. It will end in defeat not because we are going to take over the capital city, but because so many U.S. citizens are going to die that there will not be enough coffins for them. There will not be enough funeral homes in the United States. And because of the Vietnam experience, we know that the dead are the only thing capable of moving and touching that society.

Obviously, we do not wish to re-educate the Yankees or to educate them at our expense or at the cost of our lives and sacrifices. It is better not to give them the least sign of encouragement to conduct an aggression against our country. It would be better that they are not at all encouraged to do such a thing. We have to make sure they do not have the least reason to carry out an attack against us. We have to make sure they do not have the least hope to catch us unprepared. We have worked very hard. We have built hundreds of kilometers of tunnels to keep our means safe deep below, and to protect our means and men. [Castro pounds on podium] What we must prevent by all means is a surprise attack. That is very important. We must manage to find out when the

attack will take place. When we are faced with circumstances such as the ones we are experiencing now, however, we have to protect our means. We cannot neglect anything or any place. We know the imperialists well, though. Among other things, they would try to take over our capital city. They would try to take over our capital city. [Castro repeats himself] That would be their basic, strategic decision. This enemy philosophy is very important, because we would really like to see the enemy taking over this capital. [Castro pounds on podium] We do not see any way for them to take control of Havana. We are adopting many measures to defend our capital city. I do not see any way for them to take control of our capital city. [applause] If not one stone were left unturned in Havana; and if there was not one single defender left, the enemy would then try to neutralize the rest of the country. The war of all the people is the war of all the people, all the time. There is no front line, no rearguard; nothing.

Obviously, our Armed Forces' and our people's actions would depend on the enemy's actions. I say this because we are even studying ways to increase the fortification system in Havana. We will have to make a decision on the type of mobilization we will conduct in Havana now. After all, if the enemy carries out exercises, we can also conduct our exercises. We would not like the enemy to use these exercises to cover up preparations for a surprise attack on us. These exercises could also be a test to find out the kind of mobilization and the methods and quantities of means and troops they will have to conduct and deploy.

It makes no difference to us whether these exercises are a surprise attack or preparations for a mobilization. It is the same thing for us. If they test their abilities, we can test ours, too. Each building in Havana must be secured. We must have the names of each and every person who is defending the hundreds of thousands of buildings in Havana. We have almost 20,000 buildings. The more we train and prepare, the better it is for us. We will also be able to spot weaknesses and problems. We will be able to conduct all kinds of studies that will help us improve our defense. We cannot make mistakes and fail to adopt the measures we have to adopt according to each situation. It is better to mobilize 20 times without anything happening; it is better to mobilize 100 times without anything happening than to let something happen while we are unprepared. I hope we will never have to fight that combat. We must be realistic; we must be realistic and be prepared, because we have to guarantee our victory over the enemy.

It is not impossible to defeat the enemy. We are not a country that has either nuclear or massive destruction weapons, but we can massively destroy any invader who enters our homeland. We can do that with our people's courage, intelligence, and imagination. It is possible for our measures, actions, defense, and imagination to neutralize the enemy's sophisticated weapons.

Thousands of our men are currently on training sessions. We are training snipers and antiaircraft shooters. The Yankees would have a bad surprise if they decide to attack us. Our first duty, our very first duty before engaging in the first combat is to get ready, to do as much as we possibly can, to do the best we can. You can be sure that every effort we make in that direction; that every single step we make in the preparation of our defense, in the training of our personnel, in the increase of their efficiency, and in the development of our fortifications and tactics are all part of the battle. That will be our first battle. All those efforts, all those preventive measures are part of the first and most important battle. That is the only way to come out with the victory. Never ever think that you are wasting your time or that you are making useless efforts while training and preparing.

I am sure that faced with a potential enemy like Cuba, which is mobilized and doing what it is supposed to be doing, our enemy will have to think twice before attacking us. If we are willing to shed our blood in combat, if we are willing to surrender our lives and everything we have, we must also be willing to [words indistinct] things and to make some sacrifices. We must be willing to sweat as much as necessary, because we have to invest our efforts in getting ready in all possible fields. We must be forewarned and alert. That sweat, those efforts and sacrifices are part of our first combat. That sweat and those sacrifices can spare us for the shedding of much blood. That sweat and those efforts could also spare us from even having to resort to our weapons, which would be the greatest victory of all.

Many here have always wanted to participate in internationalist missions. Hundreds of thousands did participate in such missions. Some even participated in two, three, or more missions. I know of many people who have always wanted and never could participate in internationalist missions. I tell you that the internationalist mission that we are fulfilling here today is the greatest in the history of the Cuban revolution. All of us will have the privilege of participating in that mission right next to our combatants and soldiers. Each effort we make, each trench we open, and each measure we adopt is part of that mission.

That is what I want to ask from you. I want to ask you to go back to your units with these ideas and conviction in mind. I want to ask you to do all you can there. Go back there and do the best you can in the fulfillment of a mission in which we are all participating. If we mobilize when the enemy is mobilizing; if we mobilize when the enemy is gathering large combat units, including squadrons, etc., we would be fulfilling that mission. We want to you to return to your units with that conviction, for you to share that conviction with our combatants. This is all I wanted to tell you comrades. Socialism or death. Fatherland or death, we will win. [applause]

Soviet Ambassador Assesses Bilateral Relations

FL0905012990 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 May 90

[Interview with Soviet Ambassador Yuriy Petrov by unidentified reporter; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Ambassador, it has been exactly 30 years since relations were resumed between Cuba and the USSR. We would like you to assess the significance of this event.

[Petrov, in Russian with superimposed Spanish translation] The assessment of the development of our relations with Cuba during the last 30 years is undoubtedly positive. In my opinion, during the period mentioned; our peoples and countries not only attained political, social, and economic rapprochement, but also human rapprochement. A climate of mutual respect and confidence was created. We have reason to feel proud. Everything that has been done forms a solid basis for our future relations.

Cuba's success in the construction of the new socialist state is evident. Behind this, above all, is the persistent and intense work of the Cuban people, as well as the praiseworthy support of Cuba's true friends, among which, according to the Cuban's themselves, is our country.

The recently concluded visit to Cuba by a Soviet Government delegation headed by Comrade Leonid Abalkin demonstrated that along with the great achievements of our cooperation, we still have reserves for its internal development. New possibilities are emerging to expand our cooperation in the areas of public health, electronics, tourism, etc. It is clear that the attention will be focused primarily on traditional forms of bilateral cooperation.

In general, I think that we must view with optimism the development of our relations.

Interview published in GRANMA

FL0805184290 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] The newspaper GRANMA published today an interview with Yuriy Petrov, USSR ambassador to Cuba, on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the reestablishment of diplomatic relations between the two states. With the headline "The Most Important Thing Is Not What Has Been Achieved But The Possibilities Being Opened," the interview outlines the impressions of the Soviet ambassador on the 30 years of joint work, the outlook for economic cooperation, and the strengthening of friendship relations.

Envoy to Moscow on Relations With USSR

FL0805130090 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Cuban Ambassador to the USSR Jose Ramon Balaguer noted in Moscow our people's vocation for peace and expressed the certainty that Cuban-Soviet relations and friendship will improve and strengthen. Balaguer spoke during a ceremony marking the 30th anniversary of the reestablishment of relations between the two countries. The Cuban ambassador highlighted the three decades of bilateral ties and said they have a defined quality making them difficult to measure with the same stick as the others.

In a message sent to Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca, Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze reiterated the USSR's willingness to perfect political cooperation with Cuba. He added that the ties between the two countries are developing successfully and fruitfully.

Castro Attends Ceremony Marking Soviet Relations

FL0905010290 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 May 90

[Text] Presided over by our commander in chief, Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, and Oleg Baklanov, secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, the main ceremony marking the 30th anniversary of the resumption of diplomatic relations between the USSR and Cuba is being held tonight in the Universal Hall of the Revolutionary Armed Forces. The ceremony is attended by leaders of the PCC, the Union of Young Communists, and members of the Soviet delegation, as well as by representatives of the diplomatic corps and Soviet specialists working in Cuba.

Speaking at the ceremony, Baklanov stressed that relations between Cuba and the USSR have deep roots. He recalled the assistance Cuba provided the young Russian revolution and he said that Soviet specialists and Cuban personnel currently work toward improving cooperation and its results. Baklanov also said he viewed the future of our relations with optimism.

Havana Cites Pope on Possibility of Visit

FL0805130990 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] According to AP news agency, Pope John Paul II has expressed that although the possibility of a visit to Cuba had been considered between the Vatican and the Cuban Government, no agreement has been reached. Interviewed on the plane during his trip from Rome to Mexico, the pope said the possibility of the visit's taking place during the course of this year has been ruled out.

Domestic Trade Minister Reports on PRC Visit

FL0905020490 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 May 90

[Interview with Domestic Trade Minister Manuel Vila Sosa by Richard Clenton; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Vila Sosa] Richard, I think that before we speak about our objectives, it is necessary to identify the treatment given to the delegation over which we officially presided during our visit to the PRC. At all times we received a very cordial welcome. Our delegation was treated affectionately, in a friendly manner, which demonstrates the high level of our political relations with the PRC.

The objective of our trip was to fulfill an invitation extended to us by Commerce Minister Hu Ping and to continue our talks on trade between the two ministries. A product of these talks was our visit to the PRC at the end of April where we discussed the final details of our protocol agreement. We signed our protocol, and I think that the results, although it is our first protocol, are favorable for both parties. We have allowed for different kinds of merchandise, including Cuban supplies to China, as well as Chinese supplies to Cuba. The principal products that we will provide to China are citrus, hermetically sealed juices, tobacco, rum, and specialty textiles, our new line of textiles. We will provide them with our new textiles. China will basically provide us with shoes, clothing, textiles, and important cosmetic items.

CTC Secretariat on Sugar Industry Measures

FL0905022090 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 May 90

[Text] Pedro Ross Leal, secretary general of the Cuban Workers Federation [CTC], said that in the 22 days that remain of the sugar harvest it is necessary for sugar workers to double their efforts in the industry.

Officials of the Ministry of the Sugar Industry gave a briefing at the meeting of the national secretariat of the workers' organization in which they critically presented problems that affect the harvest. They reported that in a large number of sugar mills, facilities and laboratories are not being used efficiently, there is a lack of compliance with technological and labor discipline, and unhealthy conditions exist. To prevent such situations, the Minaz and the Sugar Industry Workers Trade Union have adopted a plan of measures that will solve many problems impeding the development of our primary industry. The plan includes the improvement of living and labor conditions, and the construction of social projects.

In addition, the draft emulation regulation, known as "Ready for the Defense," was analyzed at the meeting of the CTC Secretariat.

Dominican Republic

Electoral Board: 'All Is Ready' for Elections

FL0805195990 Santo Domingo Radio-Television Dominicana Radio Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] The president of the Dominican Republic Central Electoral Board has said that as far as organizational details are concerned, all is ready for the holding of the 16 May presidential elections in the Dominican Republic. Meanwhile, the officials did not say a word as to whether the government has agreed to allocate fresh funds to this institution.

During a meeting between the members of the Central Electoral Board and representatives of the political parties and groups participating in the 16 May elections held yesterday afternoon, the president of the Central Electoral Board asserted that everything is going smoothly regarding the organization of the elections and added that the institution is functioning with local funds.

The last time the government delivered funds to the Central Electoral Board was on 25 April when this institution received 5 million pesos. Yesterday, Central Electoral Board President Tavares met with President Joaquin Balaguer at the National Palace, but Tavares did not release any information on his meeting with the president.

Haiti

State Council Communique Asks Reform Measures

FL0805123790 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Only an honest policy in the domain of justice and profound reform within the Army can create the climate of confidence that will allow the Haitian people to participate properly in the coming elections. That is the position of the Council of State in view of the current political situation, expressed in a communique issued on 4 May following the installation of the electoral council [CEP].

The State Council, which exists to support the executive and is comprised of 19 representatives of the nation's principal institutions and nine geographic departments, criticized the climate of insecurity (?created by) the forces of darkness linked to the former regime; as well as the repression, crimes, and arbitrariness (?the barons) continue to perpetrate in Haiti. This is a situation showing that, two months after General Avril left government, nothing has changed as far as the population is concerned, .

Therefore, the State Council asks the government to undertake many measures of rectification and reform, and also disciplinary measures, at all levels within the

Armed Forces, the public administration, and the judiciary, to allow all those sectors to fulfill the role they should be fulfilling in the public interest.

Further, according to the State Council, the statements by the ministers of justice and interior and the public prosecutor regarding the lack of collaboration from the police forces, the pressure section chiefs continue to exert on the rural populations, and the behavior of certain members of the Armed Forces in Labadie and Cabaret, all clearly show that the population is right to complain and say that nothing has changed. The government must do something to show its goodwill.

The Haitian people are today not alone, says the State Council communique. Many friendly countries, international institutions, and democrats from all over are determined to extend a hand to Haiti, which, while continuing to keep watch over its autonomy, should not miss this opportunity to effect the changes that are necessary for the benefit of the national community.

Thus, the State Council asks the government to (?do something about) the court system, reform in the Army and the public administration, and a number of changes that are necessary prior to elections.

The State Council says in this same communique that it is up to the CEP to choose the dates for the elections in a totally independent manner.

We remind listeners that, for its part, the Assembly for Concerted Action [AC], composed of a number of political parties and groups of all tendencies, on that same Friday [4 May] evening reiterated its confidence in the provisional government. The Assembly, however, suggested that there be a quadripartite meeting among the AC, the State Council, the executive, and the Armed Forces to find a solution to the country's most urgent problems; such as security, justice, the need to lower the cost of living, and a cleanup of the public administrations.

OAS Member Comments on Elections, Assistance

FL0805214290 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 8 May 90

[Excerpt] Pierre F. (Cote), a member of the OAS mission in charge of electoral matters, met with journalists yesterday morning, 7 May, at the Holiday Inn Hotel on the Champ de Mars to tell them about his second visit to Haiti and to explain what kind of help the OAS intends to give Haiti for elections.

According to (Cote), all sectors of the national life are interested in elections and all are in favor of free, honest, democratic, and peaceful elections being held in Haiti. (Cote) said: My meeting with the members of the newly formed Provisional Electoral Council [CEP] made me very happy. I am very satisfied with their determination and desire to hold elections successfully in Haiti.

(Cote) additionally said that the head of the Army, Lieutenant General Herard Abraham, is also in favor of there being elections in Haiti. Therefore, he is determined to guarantee security throughout the electoral process. (Cote) said that there was a fierce and decisive will on the part of the government to hold elections as soon as possible.

Regarding the assistance the OAS intends to provide the CEP, (Cote) said it consists of material and technical aid.

We remind listeners that the two-member OAS mission arrived in Haiti last week, and left yesterday for the United States. [passage omitted]

Political Coalition Not To Field Sole Candidate

FL0805213190 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 8 May 90

[Excerpt] There is no question of the MOP/MDN/PAIN [Movement for the Organization of the Country/Mobilization for National Development/National Agricultural and Industrial Party] coalition's choosing a single candidate to run in the next presidential elections, said MDN leader Hubert de Ronceray. De Ronceray told us that each leader of the parties making up this coalition will run in the elections under the name of his party. [passage omitted]

New Violence in Capital; 6 Dead, 6 Wounded

FL0805210290 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 8 May 90

[Excerpts] There are two new victims of the wave of violence in Port-au-Prince. Two people were shot and killed and two others wounded last night on Delmas 42. [passage omitted]

A holdup on Delmas 42 last night left two dead and two wounded after much shooting was heard by area residents throughout most of the night. Unhooded, armed civilians appeared on Delmas 42 in the vicinity of Altagrace Church and shot, wounded, killed, and raped. They left two people dead, including a Dominican woman, and two people with bullet wounds. A second Dominican woman was raped. [passage omitted]

This is the second spectacular holdup in the Delmas area in May. There were a number of incidents on Delmas 19 and Delmas 48 last Wednesday [2 May]. Armed men appeared in broad daylight and shot and killed people, left others wounded, and made off with several cashboxes. The toll of those incidents was one dead and 3 wounded.

The murderers struck some hard blows in other areas over the weekend. [passage omitted] Also, there was a body found very early Sunday [6 May] morning in Cite Soleil. Officially, this makes six dead and six wounded already. This proves that insecurity is on the increase in Port-au-Prince. [passage omitted]

Capital's New Police Chief Comments on Security

FL0805211490 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 8 May 90

[Excerpts] The growing insecurity in Port-au-Prince and its suburbs was the main subject yesterday of an interview with the chief of police by one of our reporters. During the interview, the commanding officer of the Military Department of the Metropolitan Zone revealed the weakness of the police, which have only 800 men for a population of 1.5 million inhabitants in the metropolitan area. Here is a report from Marcus Plaisimond.

[Plaisimond] The wave of criminal acts shaking the capital for approximately two weeks now, throwing families into mourning and consternation, was the object of an important meeting Monday, 7 May, at the Military Department of the Metropolitan Zone. The heads of the police districts met with the high command of the Port-au-Prince Police headed by Colonel Jean-Claude Duperval. The main topics at this meeting included: the increase in acts of banditry, the number of police troops, the collaboration of the population, and measures to be taken for the return of peace.

In his first statement, the new head of the Port-au-Prince Police acknowledged the seriousness of the situation. We have a lot of goodwill, he said; but in police matters, goodwill is not enough.

[Begin Duperval recording] [passage omitted] We have taken preventive measures, but our means are so limited that we cannot be present on the scene when a particular act is being committed. In the latest cases, the police took numnerous measures. They intervened. They effected searches. They recovered certain weapons that up to the present had not been legalized. They arrested suspects.

These suspects, who are currently [being investigated] before a committee, will permit the police to manage to dismantle the teams that are causing all this disorder. We want to reestablish a climate of peace so the entire population will feel it can move about both day and night without problems. [passage omitted] [end recording]

[Plaisimond] The former head of the Narcotics Service also called on the population to cooperate with the police. The assistance of the press was also requested. [passage omitted]

Father Aristide Addresses Rally in U.S.

FL0805181990 Port-au-Prince Radio Antilles Internationales in French 1130 GMT 7 May 90

[Italicized passages are in Creole]

[Excerpts] Haitians in Brooklyn gave Titid, or Father Jean Bertrand Aristide, a warm welcome during his stopover in the United States. Father Titid discussed the general situation prevailing in Haiti. [passage omitted] Here is our correspondent Lecompte Francois with further details.

[Begin recording] [Lecompte] [passage omitted] *Today, many Haitians came from all over to welcome Father Aristide. The place was crowded. Everyone was awaiting the important message Reverend Jean Bertrand Aristide had brought them today.* [passage omitted]

[Aristide] [words indistinct] *Vietnam, we remember how the French foreigners sowed death but how the Vietnamese managed, in 1964, to (?push life forward), to chase off the French foreigners, drive away the French colonialists. (?That is called the battle of) life against death.*

In that same Vietnam, in 1975, the forces of life sprang up and chased off the U.S. imperialists. Today, we the Haitian people, who have the same problem with the U.S. Government, with the U.S. imperialists, can continue to rise up under the banner of 20 April [reference to rally in New York to protest the Food and Drug Administration's decision to ban Haitians from donating blood] in solidarity with the Haitian people to say to [U.S. ambassador] Adams, to say to the representative of the U.S. Government in Haiti, to say to all the U.S. Government diplomats in Haiti: [switches to English] I am sorry for you. If you do not want to hear our voice, you will get out! [cheering] You will get out! You will get out! [passage omitted]

[Lecompte] *There you have it. We will throw you out, drive you out if you are out to do things the way the Haitian people do not want them done, out to do things in imperialism's interests alone, Father Aristide said.* [passage omitted]

[Aristide] *There is a fire that we, the Haitian people, wish to continue to set, a fire which is not the same as their [not further identified] fire.*

Their fire is the fire of people who are savage even though they pass themselves off as civilized. Our fire is the fire of civilized people whom they pass off as savages. Our fire is the fire of solidarity. Our fire is the fire of concerted action. Our fire is the fire of liberty, of justice. The imperialist American firemen can stomp and shout all they want but they cannot put out this fire. [cheering and applauding] They will not be able to put out that fire. The reason they will not be able to put it out is because every time the U.S. imperialists get together with macoutes and

criminals to kill a single one of us with that conviction in his veins, the victim's blood will turn into fuel to make the fire of that civilization continue to burn ever more brightly. [cheering] Therefore, we wish to say, in the name of Jesus, who gave his blood to use as fuel to make the fire of love, justice, and freedom burn brightly; we wish to say in the name of all compatriots who have given their blood to serve as fuel to make that fire of solidarity continue to burn brightly; we wish to say to the American foreigners (?and) the macoutes in Haiti who are organizing elections of death; that (?the more) they think they are going to intimidate us, kill us, sacrifice us the way they are used to doing, the quicker—like a companion said a while ago—they will make the revolution arrive. [shout in the background: "More quickly."] [cheering] A single solution: Revolution. [Crowd begins and continues cheering. Crowd repeats after Aristide: "Revolution."] A single solution: Revolution. A single solution: Revolution. [end recording] [passage omitted]

We remind listeners that Father Aristide stopped here to visit a branch of La Famille C'est La Vie operating here in New York, which also supports La Famille C'est La Vie in Haiti, an organization headed by Father Aristide. [passage omitted]

Government Confirms No Relations With Vatican

PA0905023390 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1634 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Mexico City, 8 May (NOTIMEX)—Government Secretary Fernando Gutierrez Barrios today confirmed that Mexico will not establish diplomatic relations with the Vatican, and that Article 130 of the Constitution will not be modified.

Interviewed shortly before the ceremony to celebrate the "Newspaper Boy's Day," the government official said tht Mexico will maintain the separation of church and state and respect for the Mexican people's freedom of worship.

Referring to the meeting between President Carlos Salinas de Gortari and Pope John Paul II yesterday, 7 May, he said that we evidently live in a world where changes have occurred through a series of events, above all throughout last year. This is evident, Gutierrez Barrios insisted, and that was the topic reviewed by Salinas de Gortari and Pope John Paul II.

Nevertheless, he said that the meeting between the Mexican president and the head of the Vatican state "in no way establishes the bases for a possible renewal of relations between the two states."

"These are entirely different things. The president recently went to the airport as a gesture of attention and courtesy toward a distinguished visitor and prominent man of the world. That is undeniable." However, he stated, the issues about diplomatic relations and constitutional reforms "had nothing to do with the dialogue between President Salinas de Gortari and Pope John Paul II."

That is why, Gutierrez Barrios reasserted, there are no plans to send a bill for reforming Article 130 of the Mexican Political Constitution to the Chamber of Deputies. "There will definitely be no constitutional reforms. The situation about the Vatican and the great respect for the Mexican people's beliefs will remain unchanged," he said.

Likewise, Gutierrez Barrios reported that all the political parties and the people's representatives have been invited to participate in a debate about the presidential initiative to give the national banks a mixed status. He explained that the initiative will be read today at the Chamber of Deputies. "We expect all the deputies to attend."

Pope Gives Homily on Country's Problems

PA0905002890 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2241 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] San Juan de los Lagos (Mexico), 8 May (EFE)—Pope John Paul II stated today before hundreds of thousands of young Mexican Catholics that men are tired of empty words and speeches that never come true.

During the homily of the mass held at El Rosario esplanade in this Jalisco State town (located in the country's western sector), the pope said that the world refuses to believe words that are not accompanied by a testimony of life.

Pope John Paul II began on 6 May a truly pastoral visit in the Mexican capital that will conclude on 13 May, when he returns to Rome after remaining six hours in Willemstad, capital of Curacao, the Netherlands Antilles, for an apostolic mission.

This is the pope's second visit to Mexico. The first one was carried out in January 1979, when the country was ruled by President Jose Lopez Portillo (1976-1982).

The pope also said that there are innumerable problems in Mexico: Hunger and malnutrition, illiteracy, unemployment, family disintegration, social injustice, political and economic corruption, insufficient salaries, the concentration of wealth in the hands of a few, inflation, and an economic crisis. He reasserted that this is compounded by the power of drug trafficking, which threatens the health and lives of the people; the lack of protection for illegal and rootless immigrants who are sadly called wetbacks; continuous attacks on the sacred values of life, the family, and liberty.

The pope emphasized: Mexican youth, can you remain indifferent toward this situation of pain and suffering?

He added: We expected a more just world; that a de facto democracy would become a bastion of human rights; that economic development would not be achieved by sacrificing the smaller and weaker; and that technical and scientific progress would make us happier.

John Paul II asked the Mexican youth not to destroy their qualities and values by putting themselves at the service of the powers of evil which exist in the world. The pope asked: Will you let those powers, which want to turn you into easily handled puppets and instruments at the service of a culture without solidarity and horizons, deceive you?

He also warned the youths: Will you be led into the temptation of aligning the precious treasure of your life with the power of a destructive and assassin drug, the blinding force of hedonism, and the irrational arrogance of violence?

The pope explained that innumerable people today opt for the road of Emaus, which is—in his opinion—evasion, forgetfulness, hedonism, discotheques, drugs, indifference, pessimism, the artificial paradises in which they seek refuge.

Following the mass, the Pope crowned a statue of the Virgin of San Juan de los Lagos.

Pope Meets Diplomats on Refugees, Foreign Debt

PA0905040390 Paris AFP in Spanish 0235 GMT 9 May 90

[Text] Mexico City, 8 May (AFP)—Pope John Paul II made an emotional plea for Latin American unity in confronting the foreign debt phenomenon at a meeting on Tuesday night with the Diplomatic Corps at the Apostolic delegation in Mexico City.

The pope also addressed such issues as the church's apolitization, contacts between the Holy See and Mexico, and the refugee issue, following his extensive tour of the northwestern part of the country on the third day of his visit to Mexico.

Greeting the pope in his capacity as dean of the Diplomatic Corps, Paraguayan Ambassador Raul A. Gomez underscored the pontiff's "untiring diligence" in favor of the church, and said that it is the goal of the governments accredited to Mexico to achieve "a world of peace and love."

In his message, the pontiff commented the foreign debt, which is an inevitable burden on world stability, "has become a burden and, in some cases, it has even accentuated underdevelopment." The pope advocated placing value on the "ethical dimension" of the economic crises created by the foreign debt—which in Latin America's case surpasses $400 billion—and called for regional solidarity to confront the problem. "I encourage you to work tirelessly in favor of the unity that will undoubtedly lead you to worldwide leadership," the pope said, addressing the Latin American representatives accredited in Mexico, a country with a foreign debt of $92.240 billion.

The pope described the refugee problem as "a threat to human dignity, a typical plague that reveals the imbalance and conflicts of the contemporary world," and he called for the implementation of the 1951 UN convention and the 1967 refugee law.

Mexico, with 46,000 registered Guatemalan refugees and approximately 300,000 displaced Central Americans living illegally in the country, to date has not signed either the convention or the refugee protocol.

Meanwhile, John Paul II cited as exemplary "the president of the United States of Mexico's significant and important gesture of designating a special and permanent envoy to the Holy See in February."

Despite being an eminently Catholic country, Mexico does not constitutionally recognize the Vatican as a state.

To conclude, the top Catholic hierarch said that the church must not be indifferent to the future of millions of human beings, but he explained that this does not mean that "it should establish ties with any political system," nor that it should become involved in political activities.

The pope concluded the final message of this exhausting day with a reaffirmation of the Holy See's resolve to cooperate in achieving "a better understanding among nations in favor of justice and respect for human rights."

* 'Peasant Torch' Head Discusses Organization

90CA0004A Mexico City PROCESO in Spanish No 695, 26 Feb 90 pp 10, 12-13

[For related reporting, see FBIS Latin America Daily Report of 27 Feb 90 (FBIS-LAT-90-039) pp 8-15]

[Text] Violence has turned against the Institutional Revolutionary Party. On 18 February members of Peasant Torch [AC], accused of being an armed tool of the government and of serving the PRI by physically fighting against independent organizations, attacked members of the PRI, punching them and using clubs and rocks. These attacks took place in the presence of Luis Donaldo Colosio, the surprised leader of the AC, who accused the attackers of being "unreasonable and intolerant."

Unable to control themselves, the AC members involved in the incident demanded that he show them respect and shouted: "They have pushed us over to the sidelines, despite the fact that we are within the PRI." They warned: "The war is not over, because the enemy is powerful and tricky. But we will continue the fight until we obtain full recognition of the work which we are doing within the PRI."

Speaking emphatically, Donaldo Colosio, who was making a working trip through the State of Mexico, answered them: "We know the vigor with which you defend your rights. We propose holding a discussion. We will not be responsible for the violence which Peasant Torch is promoting."

Peasant Torch, which originally advocated Marxism-Leninism, has grown at a dizzying pace with the protection of the government and of the PRI. The opposition says that it is a group of fascist thugs. Amnesty International includes the AC on its list of groups which attack human rights in Mexico. And in the Chamber of Deputies the organization has been accused of being responsible for the murder of at least 600 peasants throughout the country.

Linked to violent activity during the 15 years of its existence, Peasant Torch has always been repudiated, even by PRI members. For example, Francisco Salas Hernandez, leader of the CNC [National Peasant Confederation], its elder sister in the PRI, has accused the AC of trying to take over the position of the CNC in the national peasant movement.

Jesus Gonzalez Gortazar, leader of the National Confederation of Small Landowners (CNPP), which is also affiliated with the PRI, stated that the AC "is a mysterious organization and, therefore, a dangerous one. No one knows where it is going. In Puebla we have seen that

its activities, keeping in mind the differences in size, are a copy of Sendero Luminoso [Shining Path guerrillas in Peru], a Maoist organization. Up to now we have not had any conflict with them, but sugar cane growers on ejido lands [Indian community-held farm land] have fought with them. AC members use violence to obtain political positions, particularly in organizations of small property owners where the land has been divided into tiny fields and the people are very poor. I repeat: AC members are rather strange people. We do not know much about their ideology and still less do we know what they are aiming at."

The PAN [National Action Party], the PRD [Party of the Democratic Revolution], and the CAP [People's Armed Commandos] also condemn the AC. They accuse it of provoking violent conflict in the states of Puebla, Hidalgo, Oaxaca, Zacatecas, Durango, Guerrero, Chiapas, Tabasco, Mexico, and the Federal District, among other places. They agree that the AC is financed by the PRI.

Enrique Gonzalez Ruiz, former rector of the Autonomous University of Guerrero, states that socially distinguished people support the organization. He mentions, among other people, Dr Raul Salinas de Gortari, Guillermo Jimenez Morales, and Mario Hernandez Posadas, former head of the CNC and presently the leader of Mexican agronomists.

However, Aquiles Cordova Moran, founder and leader of Peasant Torch, denies all of this. He says that his organization is the victim of a campaign led by the PRD and by conservative groups in the PRI. He states that in no way should the AC be identified as a criminal organization—until evidence has been presented in court. PROCESO has a recording made in August 1989 of an interview with Aquiles Cordova Moran. He stated that the AC has more than 800,000 members, that it is active in 22 states, and that his organization is "progressive, revolutionary, and seeks to establish socialism" in Mexico.

In the interview he was told that, "your organization has been compared to the Sendero Luminoso group in Peru and is also accused of being a group of thugs serving the PRI." He replied: "Neither of those statements is true. We would like to have people identify us with Sendero Luminoso, because we would like to move in that direction. We would like to have people know that we are a manifestation of Sendero Luminoso. We propose to help the people in that way. However, what sense would it make for me to say that I am a member of Sendero Luminoso and that I am a member of the PRI? That would not go over. That is absurd. On the other hand, what sense would it make to be a political division of the PRI or at least of the government system and to be engaged in a fight, and particularly in so open and violent a way, against the forces of the same political party as the governors of the States of Oaxaca and Tabasco?

"I will tell you what all of this means. As members of the PRI we were asked to play a certain role. However, in fact we have never been recognized as members of the PRI. The forces which have decisionmaking powers and the ability to make propaganda within the PRI not only do not accept us but are fighting to push us out of the party. Why? What is the reason? If we were an armed group or a political group which is serving the party well in repressing or attacking leftist groups, why do they not want us to stay in the PRI? The people who are annoyed with our presence in the party are the most conservative elements within it. The reason is that the AC is definitely fighting for the defense of the peasants and of those who have been left out of things. Of course, we may be mistaken. I am not saying that we are always right. What I do say is that our efforts on behalf of the people in the countryside are very honorable. And we have proof of that."

As They Describe Themselves

The interview was held in a restaurant in Mexico City. Wearing a worker's coat and a shirt without a tie, Aquiles Cordova, whose graying hair is beginning to show, speaks vigorously and passionately, to the extent that he attracts the attention of people at nearby tables. He said that the AC was established to fight against the system of cacique holdings in the northern mountains and the Mixtec region of the State of Puebla, principally in Tecomatlan and Huitzilan de Serdan. From these areas it has expanded to other regions. He recalled that the AC was part of the National Peasant Confederation when Mario Hernandez Posadas led the confederation during the previous administration. He explained that when Hector Hugo Olivares Ventura succeeded Hernandez Posadas in the CNC, "We saw that we were not welcome and applied for membership in the PRI."

He continued: "We took advantage of the visit to Puebla of Carlos Salinas de Gortari, then a presidential candidate, to tell him what we are and to give him our application for membership. On 28 October 1988 nearly 50,000 members of the AC marched through the capital. At the headquarters of the PRI Manuel Camacho Solis, then secretary general of the party, told them: 'The inclusion of the Peasant Torch organization in the party is the result of a process of political maturation which the country is going through. It is a sign of the open policies of the Institutional Revolutionary Party and of its public acceptance of commitments.'"

At the end of the ceremony at which were signed the bylaws which cover official register Number 220 of the agrarian sector of the PRI, Camacho Solis added that, "with the power and organization of Peasant Torch the PRI will be strengthened in an electoral sense." Pedro Joaquin Coldwell, then organizational secretary of the PRI and now minister of tourism, expressed his appreciation for the work of the AC. He promised to listen to the call of what is now his party and to act with full respect for its components.

On the date of the interview with PROCESO Cordova Moran stated that things had not gone as they should have and that for this reason he had met with Luis Donaldo Colosio. He said: "I told him that we were annoyed because our recognition as members of the PRI was only on paper. In practice entire state governments, such as those led by Salvador Neme Castillo in the State of Tabasco or Heladio Ramirez in the State of Oaxaca, attack the AC and close all doors to make sure that there is no answer to its most elementary and just demands. I said that, from that point of view, we were asking that the PRI extend real recognition to us and that it help us by speaking with the governors and the various authorities. I said that for some reason they looked at us with suspicion and a lack of confidence. We asked that the PRI explain what we are, what we are doing, and what our objectives are, so that if we are not given a privileged position, at least the doors will be open to us.

"Luis Donaldo Colosio told us that he thought that what we were suggesting made good sense and that the party would take an interest in this matter. However, at the same time he asked us to be careful about the way in which we operated. The party has its traditions and its sensitive points. We should understand that at times we had to moderate our methods of operation and our language."

Cordova Moran stated that the AC "is not the result of the activities or of the sponsorship of any political figure in the government system. Its members have their own history in the struggle. It is a group which is similar to the Spartacists of Jose Revueltas, which succeeded in arranging for the establishment of the School of Agronomy at the Autonomous University of Chihuahua. It is the same group which turned Chapingo into a university. Its ideals are clearly popular and revolutionary in character, because its objective is to organize the peasants to defend themselves from their enemies. It is part of the reality and level of consciousness of producer groups. It does not seek to impose any preconceived program but rather to establish a genuine system of leadership which may challenge any political power at a given time. No other organization in the countryside is in such a situation.

"We think that in the case of Jimenez Morales and of Dr Salinas de Gortari the rumors come from political groups which are enemies of both of them. They do not wish to help them but rather to harm them. Why? First, because the AC has been given the image of a paramilitary group which is armed and violent. That is, its activities, from all points of view, should be repudiated. Once that image was established, to say that someone is a sponsor of the AC is equivalent to destroying him politically, and this is what has been done with them."

The leader agreed: "The only real contact which the AC has had with Dr Salinas de Gortari, and which is the small foundation on which has been built an entire structure of lies, was a visit which he made to Tecomatlan at the end of 1988. I do not doubt his political intentions. He is a politician. However, he went to Tecomatlan because this is one of the areas where the supplies provided by Conasupo [National Company for Basic Commodities] have a more noticeable social impact and from which many branches for the distribution of merchandise and the general policies of that company extend. That is the only real circumstance under which the AC had a personal interview with the president's brother. It had no such contact either before or afterwards. I have never seen him since then. I do not doubt that his presence must have had the purpose of creating a political impact. However, I dare say that this is far from any express agreement in which he appeared as the savior of the AC."

The Organization Expands

Aquiles Cordova went on to describe his organization. He said that what makes it distinctive is that it continues to develop leaders within the various village communities. He said: "Consequently, its relationship with the peasants is not sporadic or temporary or confined to election campaigns. Rather, it is daily and permanent." He stated that "a member of the AC lives in the community and therefore cannot be involved in corruption or betray the community. He is answerable to the community. Thus, we can continue to change conditions through study, discussion, and the practical struggle. As a result it is very difficult for a village to abandon the AC line."

He was asked: "Why is it that wherever there is an AC organization, there is violence?"

He replied: "That is false. The former rector of the Autonomous University of Guerrero says that. It is not true. That is an arbitrary generalization. Why do I say that? Because there are two real points of friction in the State of Puebla. Outside of them nothing happens. There is no violence."

He was asked: "In the Chamber of Deputies the AC has been accused of at least 600 murders. If members of the AC are innocent, why have they allowed such denunciations to spread?"

He answered: "We have not allowed them to spread. What happens is that we have not been able to stop them. We are a new organization. We lack skill. We have poor peasants in the AC, not organizations connected with the universities or the deputies. Zabludovsky does not give us time on TV. Nor on the radio, either.

"We have told the reporters: 'Look, these people are from the AC.' They ask, 'Are they murderers?' Slander not only leaves tracks, but at times it even changes reality. I might begin by telling you, 'You are a murderer, a murderer.' And some day, if you are angry with me, because I have offended you, you kill me. And already the slander has made you into a criminal. Those who have attacked us know this.

"Regarding the murders, it was Rosario Ibarra de Piedra who made this accusation in the Chamber of Deputies. However, that is just a story, and he has never been willing to reply to what we have said to him: Prove that your accusations have been accepted by the public prosecutor's office. He cannot do it, because those murders took place before the AC was established. The accusations are just an invention. Furthermore, those accusations have an impact among those who read the newspapers, the politicians in particular. However, among the peasants, there is never any response. They are with us."

Aquiles Cordova states that, in addition to the AC organization itself there are also AC affiliated organizations for the workers, the students, and the people. He stated that the student affiliate "is only organized at this time in the Lazaro Cardenas del Rio Preparatory School, located in Revillagigedo and Arcos de Belen." He stated: "the people's preparatory schools have no contact with us at present."

Regarding the AC affiliates among the workers and the people, he said that their membership has been growing, particularly on the outskirts of the Federal District of Mexico and in the cities in the interior of the country. He added: "Their members are very poor people, who have everything to gain and very little to lose."

He was asked: "Is the governor afraid of Peasant Torch?"

He replied: "That is true. There are insinuations and opposition by the administrative, political, and educational authorities. That attitude is due to the fact that the movement has been able to attract sympathy and enthusiasm. We are growing, despite the fact that they say that we are terrorists."

Costa Rica

Leaders Arrive for Calderon Inauguration

PA0805134590 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1218 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Most of the delegations that will attend President Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier's inauguration ceremony arrived yesterday.

Panamanian and Salvadoran Presidents Guillermo Endara and Alfredo Cristiani were the first ones to arrive, shortly before noon. Honduran and Venezuelan Presidents Rafael Leonardo Callejas and Carlos Andres Perez arrived in the afternoon, as well as delegations from Colombia headed by Foreign Minister Julio Londono, from Japan headed by Koshiro Mori [title not given], and from Spain.

Honduran President Callejas said that integration must be the goal of Central American nations in the near future, as the economic field offers good opportunities for full development.

Callejas added that Honduran relations with Costa Rica will not be merely formal at the government level, but will also have a personal nature, given his close friendship with President Calderon and his family. He recalled that his grandparents lived as exiles in Costa Rica and that he lived the first years of his life here and therefore has deep ties with our country.

Callejas said that for the first time in the century the American continent has democratic governments, and for the first time in the past century Central America has governments elected by the people. He added that Cuba is the only exception for democracy, which means relations cannot yet be formalized.

Panamanian President Endara said on arrival that Panama has made positive changes on its path to democratization. He stressed that his presence here is a demonstration of respect and admiration for the democratic tradition of the Costa Rican people who for many years have chosen their leaders in free elections. Endara said that he rejoices with the Costa Rican people, adding that his government will maintain its traditional friendly relations with Costa Rica.

President Calderon Delivers Inaugural Speech

PA0805214290 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1818 GMT 8 May 90

[Inaugural speech by President Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier at the National Stadium in San Jose—live]

[Text] Mr. President and deputies of the Legislative Assembly; Mr. President and magistrates of the Supreme Court of Justice and of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal; Your Excellencies and distinguished heads of state and chiefs of special missions; Your Excellencies and most reverend archbishops and bishops of the Diocese of Costa Rica; Mr. Comptroller General of the Republic; Costa Rican peopie:

Exactly 50 years ago today, my father took the oath of office, before God and the fatherland, as the president of the first social Christian government of the Americas. [applause] We have returned to power because we knew how to preserve the heritage of a struggle for social justice. If we have any merit at the beginning of this new stage, it is the merit of having listened to the voice of the people.

We are the heirs of a government that was sensitive to the needs of the dispossessed. Inspired by the social doctrine of the Church, that government gave Costa Rica social guarantees and the Labor Code; [applause] it founded the University of Costa Rica and the Costa Rican Social Security Fund; and it started low-cost housing programs in Costa Rica. [applause]

When I was a child, my father used to talk to me about the Costa Rica he found when he took over the Presidency of the Republic. It was a Costa Rica affected by the economic crisis in the midst of a world that was fighting against fascism. It was a poor Costa Rica, with huge inequalities and without any social programs. It was a Costa Rica in which the workers did not have any rights or access to modern medicine and medical services. It was a Costa Rica in which the people did not have access to adequate housing; it was a Costa Rica without a university and without any educational opportunities for many of its children.

Now that the democratic revolutions in Eastern Europe confirm that there has never been nor will there ever be social justice without freedom, the dramatic truth of the Latin American peoples remind us that without social justice there will never be true freedom. [applause] Only development with social justice protects democracies against the totalitarian perils of the right or left.

In this solemn ceremony where we confirm a democratic tradition that is over 100 years old, we take over our role as servants of the people's will without vanities or messianic attitudes and with a great love for this democratic Costa Rica, a fatherland that has learned to live in peace because it first learned how to live in justice. [applause]

Today we swore before God and the fatherland that we will be loyal to our vocation for peace, which we understand is the result of justice and development, not just the absence of war. [applause]

Unfortunately for all of us, today we are not receiving what was called the first developed nation of Latin America. Costa Rica has not been spared from the negative effects of the lost decade and of the regional Central American crisis. The state treasury is empty. We are being given a country that has a 30-million colones fiscal deficit, equivalent to six percent of the GNP. Undoubtedly, this is one of the greatest fiscal deficits in

our history. This fact forces us to take measures that will entail sacrifices during the first 12 months of our government. We will do that to prevent our people from suffering the effects of inflation. [applause]

In recent years, we have followed a new model of development with positive results. As a result of that model, production and exports have grown. However, that new model has also entailed negative effects such as the concentration of wealth in a few hands and the impoverishment of the small-and medium-sized Costa Rican farmer. During our administration, we will continue with the same model of development, but we will prevent its most negative tendencies.

I bring a message of a better future for both those who have benefitted from the new model and for those who have not yet received its benefits.

For my parents, family, Costa Ricans, the words of the prophet Jeremiah have a special meaning, because I know very well what I want for you. I want to give you peace, not suffering, and a future full of hope. [applause].

Costa Ricans, we are here to give our adversaries an opportunity for dialogue, thus permitting a government of national consensus. We do not believe any political party or social group monopolizes the truth. We do not believe in caudillo governments or in a personality cult for a leader. We have arrived here with a humble spirit, to pray to God and the Virgin of Los Angeles to help us work for Costa Rica, as conductor of a great team of men and women who are willing to hear the people's voices.

None of our actions will ever alter the climate of harmony in which Costa Ricans have lived. We are not here to divide, but to reconcile. Above all, we hope to be recognized at the end of our term as a government of consensus for all social groups. We have not arrived to impose our views, but to propose. We have not arrived here to defeat anyone, but to convince. We will govern under the premise that democracy is a government of tolerance in which the opinion of others must be respected. [applause]

We cannot build a future clinging to old dogmas. The world has began a new era of liberty and peace. We can still hear the sound produced by the fall of the walls of intolerance, and of the cold and hot wars. We cannot build a future clinging to a liberalism of the past century that promotes the simple-minded doctrine of laissez-faire. We cannot build a future holding on to a decaying statism inherent in this [word indistinct] 20th century.

The train of progress cannot remain still and anchored to the stations of the past. The 21st century has begun with the democratic revolutions of Europe and the Soviet Union, with the promising EC project, the rapport among the superpowers, Latin America's democratization, and the economic success of Japan and other Asian countries. We must decide whether we will remain once again outside the benefits of development, or join the train of the new era. The 21st century must also begin in our small and beloved Costa Rica! [applause]

From the pope's encyclical letter we learned that man must not be at the service of the economy, instead the economy must be at the service of man. From the experience of this century we have learned that man must not be at the service of state, but rather the state should be at the service of man. Only democracy can save democracy.

Nations that have practiced non-democratic means of development have returned to democracy following considerable traumas and disappointments. Our path to development will be democratic or it will not be. Only economic democracy can save political democracy. A society that distributes its excess wealth may end up discouraging and even killing the private enterprise that makes development possible. However, a society that disregards the idea of distributing wealth fairly may end up discouraging its workers' productive efforts and even killing their loyalty to the democratic system.

I view private enterprise as the motor of development. I believe in free enterprise with social responsibility. I am going to establish an alliance between the state and private enterprise. The history of the past century has proven that a private enterprise constrained by limitations and regulations leads first to social polarization and later to class struggles.

The 20th century has proven to us that an almighty, bureaucratic, and inefficient state makes development impossible, and it undermines the creativity and freedom of communities and people. Only participatory democracy can save representative democracy. The state should be at the service of the people's good and development, instead of development being at the service of politicians and state officials.

We believe in a state that guides, regulates, and promotes development, not in a state that smothers, replaces, and hampers private initiative. Yet, we will never make the mistake of thinking that the right to ownership should be limited to just a few persons. To avoid having democracy threatened by a nation of have-nots, democracy must give rise to a country of owners. Only the people can save the people. From cooperatives and mutual aid groups, from community development associations, from programs to develop small businesses, from self-managing enterprises, from the large and small-scale business chambers, from responsible and democratic unions, and from our economic democratization program, only the people save the people

The people will save political democracy if we give them access to economic democracy. Henceforth, the efforts and fervor of our Cabinet will be aimed at complying with certain principal objectives. We will be creating thousands of small-scale businesses, many of them related to tourism. We will strengthen the foundations to overcome the housing shortage in the next 10 years. We

will consolidate our program to give away the family housing bonus [bono familiar de la vivienda]. [applause]

We are going to propose plans to seek greater economic democracy. At the same time, we will submit a bill introducing a chapter on economic guarantees into our political constitution. Through this initiative, the limits of the government's actions on the economy will be established to control the inflation rate, thus consolidating a climate of security and clear guidelines for local businessmen and farmers, leading to sustained economic development. We will promote the strengthening of the productive social sector as one of the ways to consolidate economic democracy. We will submit initiatives to unify and make pensions more equitable.

We are going to continue with the gradual and prudent process of modernizing our economy and giving special attention to our small-scale farmers' pressing problems; these are farmers who represent the traditional cornerstone of Costa Rica's rural democracy. We will promote a program to help the agricultural sector, including urgent actions to democratize credit, to give technical assistance, and to offer fair prices for farmers. We are going to strive so that interest rates fall as public finances are organized. We are going to reduce the fiscal deficit wihout neglecting social programs for low-income Costa Ricans.

We will promote science and technology under the premise that development depends on a solid scientific and technological foundation. We will turn Costa Rica into a conservationist model and will continue efforts to attain energy independence. We are going to promote traditional and nontraditional exports, with the understanding that new opportunities are opening up in our traditional Central America market as well as in the rising European Community, and even in the Eastern European markets.

We will back businessmen who have begun production and export activities, under the framework of the Caribbean Basin initiative. We will work toward the reactivation of the Central American market, taking advantage of the new favorable social and political climate that is opening up in all the Central American nations. We are going to create the family institute as a means to protect and develop the fundamental nucleus of Costa Rican society. Because that project hopes to better coordinate the resources and actions of existing institutions, it will not lead to additional public spending. We believe children have duties, but they also have rights.

In coordination with our friends in other nations, we will start a campaign to protect children, especially children who are currently being attacked by drug traffickers. In this Costa Rica of reality, our hopes are set on the youth. We will build a fatherland in which no youth is deprived of the opportunity to study and have a job. We will present a proposal for the modernization of our Labor Code. We will devote special attention to the solidarity and labor movements, because they significantly help build a more fraternal and just society.

We will vigorously fight drug traffickers and criminals to restore security to Costa Rican citizens. We will strengthen the joint Drug Intelligence Center, and will continue and follow up the patriotic efforts of the legislative comission that investigated drug trafficking in Costa Rica.

We will relocate Civil Guards from the Nicaraguan and Panamanian borders to more populated areas. We will rationalize public spending. We will set an example by reducing the president's confidential expenses. We will promote overall reform in the public sector, seeking efficiency, rationalization, and decentralization of the Costa Rican state. We will continue with the plan to privatize the Codesa [Development Corporation, Inc.] enterprises, and each day we will remain on the path of a government of great national consensus.

There are economic superpowers and military superpowers. We only aspire to consolidate as a superpower of disarmament and human rights. We only aspire to consolidate as a superpower in the preservation of natural resources and the environment, a superpower in the struggle against drug trafficking, a superpower with respect for the right to asylum, for hospitality, for social justice, for moral and religious values, for the struggle for a new fair and equitable economic international order, for the construction of a new ecological international order, and a superpower in the struggle for development, because as Pope John Paul II said, development is the new name of peace.

In Central America, we are winning the battle against totalitarianism. The time has come to win the battle against underdevelopment. The only war we Costa Ricans will know how to wage is the war against ignorance and poverty, the war against inflation and unemployment, fanaticism, and violence.

From the beginning, we supported the Esquipulas peace process for a negotiated solution to the Central American conflict. Before the first Esquipulas summit, I visited the presidential house to offer my support to the peace initiative.

We were happy when the Nobel Peace Prize was given to a Costa Rican national, through the hands of its president, Dr. Oscar Arias Sanchez. Now that we are in the middle of the road, the Central American presidents have to proceed to a new phase in which the important goal is not to silence the thunder of cannons but to get us to finally take off on the road to development.

We want the integration of Panama and Belize into the Central American family. We know that only by acting in a concentrated manner will the countries in the region be able to survive and advance in a world of competitive economic blocs. We also know that development will be unattainable without resolute international aid from our friends all over the world, especially Europe, Japan, and

North America. We will display an active foreign policy based on the principles of peace, freedom, justice, and democracy. We will also be faithful to the norms of international law. We will promote actions to strengthen and improve the operation of the OAS. We will instruct our foreign service to practice an active economic diplomacy to explore new financial, political and commercial alternatives, as well as to attract investments and technology. We hope to convince the country of the advantages of continuing a bipartisan foreign policy. In accordance to Costa Rican tradition, our foreign policy will be addressed to the constant and unconditional respect for human rights. We will be faithful to the principle of non-intervention and self-determination of nations. We will always remember the principle taught to us by the glorious son of the Americas, Benito Juarez: The respect of the rights of others is peace. We will never forget that our foreign policy's main purpose is the defense of our sovereignty and our national interests.

A new world war has started. It is a war between man and nature. In his excessive zeal to attain confort, man has ended up by using science, technology, and industry in a limitless manner, destroying the planet he inherited from his ancestors. The rivers are dying. The forest is disappearing. The jungle is turning into desert. Cities are turning into contaminated prisons. When species and nature are destroyed, man destroys himself. In the midst of this planetary conflict, our country survives like a small garden where North and South America's flora and fauna coexist. The waters of the world's two large oceans reach our many and beautiful beaches. For its size, Costa Rica is one of the countries in the world with a great variety of flora and fauna. Its national park system is one of the best in Latin America. UNESCO designated our International Friendship Park as a reserve area for the protection [words indistinct] of world heritage. Scientists and travelers have described Costa Rica as the paradise of naturists. Slowly our land is turning into a place for those who love nature. This is a land where temples and mosques are the forests, [word indistinct] the virgin beaches, savannhas, waterfalls, islands filled with marine birds, and coral reefs. We have inherited a land filled with ecological riches and we want to mantain it. We are sharing these riches with all the friends who visit us, but we also want to promote the conservationist revolution outside our borders and use our own reality and experience as examples. Costa Rica will export the conservationist revolution by proposing that a new international ecological order be created. We will struggle for this new ecological order at international forums to get most of the countries to sign environmental agreements and to improve international organizations' current ecological programs. All humanity has the duty and obligation to preserve the environment, for this is equal to preserving life. This government will have the difficult but necessary and satisfactory task of creating— by proposing initiatives in which all international governments and organizations have to participate—the greatest legacy a country can leave to humanity: A new international ecological order.

One of the most serious evils undermining our society and destroying our youth is the problem of drugs and their use. Drug trafficking goes beyond borders and does not respect age or values. We will only be able to fight it effectively if we all join together and carry out joint actions.

The international drug production, processing, and trafficking business has become a veritable political and economic power that threatens the Latin American nations' sovereignty and democracy. No Latin American country can assume that it will be immune to the power of drugs. The international nature of the threat also demands international answers. Our government will struggle in coordination with all nations in the hemisphere until the final battle against drug traffickers is waged. We will firmly support the international cooperation mechanisms that strengthen joint actions. We must particularly make sure that the states ratify and effectively enforce what is stated in the UN Convention Against the Illegal Traffic of Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.

Costa Rica is here once more to declare peace on the world. Once more, like every four years, the most stable and permanent democracy in Latin America invites the citizens of the world to build a future of mutual convenience. We come to invite the businessmen of the world to approach us with their investments and economic projects. We invite foreign investors to take advantage of the Caribbean Basin nitiative by producing and exporting from this land of stability and peace. We have not come to raise the walls of intolerance but to open the doors to a new era in Costa Rica. The people who look back to their forefathers will look forward to the future.

Before the forefathers of our Costa Rican nationality, I pledge to lead a government of national consensus that is faithful to the principles of our uniqueness. Before President Juan Rafael Mora Porras, I pledge to untiringly defend our national sovereignty. [applause] Before former President Rafael Angel Calderon Guardia, I pledge to raise the flag of economic democracy and social justice. [applause and shouts] Before former President Jose Figueres Ferrer, I pledge to struggle for the consolidation of our unarmed democracy and the defense and modernization of the nationalized Costa Rican banks. [applause]

Before former President Mario Echandi Jimenez, I pledge to constantly struggle for our production, freedom of enterprise, and the Costa Rican family's unification. [applause] Before former President Jose Joaquin Trejos Fernandez, I pledge to lead a government that regains moral and religious values, and sponsors economic development. [applause] Before former President Rodrigo Carazo Odio, I pledge to lead a government that strives for just treatment for Costa Rican farmers. [applause and shouts] Before former President Luis Alberto Monge, I pledge to lead a government of tolerance and national consensus. [applause] Before former

President Oscar Arias Sanchez, I pledge once more to continue the Costa Rican tradition of struggling for peace. [applause]

Fifty years ago today, from this very rostrum, my father said: Only a feeling of fraternity that is truly felt and enforced can definitely solve human conflicts. Only a balanced cooperation of all the social groups, within a state of law that strongly excludes the abuse of illegal power, will help achieve a conciliation of interests that is so necessary so that all the members of our community may feel they are participants in the edifying work of raising Costa Rica's spiritual and material level every day.

For decades Costa Rica has been a small candle in a world that finds itself immersed in darkness too many times. We have seen that darkness at our borders; we have seen that darkness throughout the world. We are now on the threshold of a new decade; we approach the beginning of a new century; we are near the start of a new millenium—when the curtains of darkness begin to part and allow the arrival of a new day.

Fifty years ago, my father's generation began a new era in Costa Rica's history. Today our generation enters a new era in world history. It is an era in which the light of Costa Rica's candle will continue to shine even more brilliantly. The Costa Ricans will continue to nourish the flame. However, it is also our ideal that other nations and other friends of Costa Rica's spirit will also nourish the flame—until all the people's of the world know that God has plans for them, plans for their prosperity and not their misfortune, and plans to give them a future full of hopes.

Thank you! Long live Costa Rica! [crowd applauds and shouts: "Viva!"]

Calderon on Future Summit, Cuba, Integration

PA0905001790 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 2235 GMT 8 May 90

[Report by William Cespedes on news conference by President Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier with unidentified reporters at the Presidential House in San Jose; date not given]

[Text] [Cespedes] After meeting with the Central American presidents in a brief minisummit here at the Presidential House follwoing the luncheon given by him for the chiefs of delegations, President Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier has set the date of the Central American summit to discuss economic development and actions required for integration [words indistinct].

The meeting of Central American presidents will be held in Guatemala from 15 to 17 June. President Calderon also referred to subjects related to Cuba and to actions that must continue to be taken within the regional peace process to contribute to the strengthening of the democratic process in Nicaragua and El Salvador. The president said:

[Begin recording] [Calderon, in progress]... with the presidents, the meeting of presidents in Guatemala City has been scheduled for 15 - 17 June and there will be a preparatory meeting of economy ministers of each our countries, including Panama, fortunately, on 15 May in Guatemala City. This will be to draw up the agenda on the economic development we must give the region.

This meeting will not only discuss foreign policy matters but matters concerning our region's economic and social development. [Words indistinct] more important agreements and the opportunity, of course, to [words indistinct] a very special personal relationship with each of the presidents of the area. Logically, this makes it possible to draw our people closer and to reach agreements more easily.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct?]

[Calderon, in progress]... (?economic blocs) [words indistinct]. We have discussed the need to coordinate our policies to be able to confront the challenges faced by a region like ours when it enters into more open markets to compete, for instance, in Europe, Asia or the United States.

Regarding the Central American Parliament, I pointed out today that we will try to get the Congress of the Republic to accept a formula to join the parliament, making the admission subject to having the Costa Rican people confirm in a plebiscite the initial, provisional election made by the deputies. I do not think our country is prepared at this moment to participate in new elections. We would rather wait for the general elections in 1994 for the definitive deputies. However, the deputies elected to the current Costa Rican Legislative Assembly can be confirmed in a plebiscite. This plebiscite would also confirm whether we will join the Central American Parliament. The Costa Rican people have the last word. This will be the proposal which the government will submit to the Legislative Assembly.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Calderon] We hope to be able to count on Belize's presence this year. It gives me great pleasure to watch the Belizean prime miniser sitting at the same table with the Guatemalan president, sharing and really seeking unity and fraternity among all of us who live in this small part of the world—Central America.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct], the support which the Central American presidents must give to El Salvador and Nicaragua [words indistinct].

[Calderon] Of course, our peoples have one single goal—to seek peace, freedom, democracy and respect for human rights. In this specifically, President Carlos Andres Perez also plays an important role because it is in

Venezuela where the talks between the Salvadoran guerrillas and the Salvadoran Government will be held. Naturally, all of us want an agreement to be reached, and we will all help, to the extent of our abilities, to reach this agreement to end the bloodshed in the sister republic of El Salvador and, by the same token, to continue strengthening the budding democracy in Nicaragua.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Calderon] It is true that at this moment the Caribbean may give us a very pleasant surprise. It is to completely make the American continent democratic in the near future.

[Reporter] Is Cuba blocking democracy on the American continent?

[Calderon] Well, it is precisely the nation that does not have democracy, and this democracy is the hope we all have. Those of us who have struggled for democracy have turned democracy into a [word indistinct] that is spreading like an infection. We see it has infected Eastern Europe and Latin America and this has made all of us who are struggling for these principles very happy.

[Reporter] [Queston indistinct]?

[Calderon] Always, because, of course, we have to follow up on the whole political part of the Esquipulas Agreements. [end recording]

El Salvador

Cristiani Delivers Speech on 'Soldiers Day'

PA0905013890 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 6 May 90

["Soldiers Day" speech by President Alfredo Cristiani at the Flor Blanca Stadium in San Salvador on 6 May—recorded]

[Text] First lady of the nation, Mr. Vice President, Your Excellencies of the Diplomatic Corps, members of the Armed Forces High Command, generals, chiefs, officers, non-commissioned officers, troops, public security policemen, and administrative personnel, Salvadoran people:

We have gathered here, united by a shared feeling of patriotism, to offer a tribute of admiration and appreciation to all of the members of our Armed Forces. Within the commemorative framework of Soldiers Day, from the very depth of our hearts, we first of all pay homage of undying gratitude to our Salvadoran brothers who, wearing the Armed Forces' uniform, have given their lives to defend our dear fatherland. With their generous blood they have fertilized the path of peace, democracy, and freedom for the Salvadoran people.

We pay homage to the soldiers killed in combat while fulfilling the sacred mission of defending the Rpublic's sovereignty and integrity. It is with emotion that we evoke those brothers who, stoically confronting danger and death, gave their lives so that our country would have a better future, and so that present and future generations could build a more human and solidary society.

We pay special tribute to one of those men who, in the full bloom of youth, has gone on to form part of our Armed Forces' glorious history, and who gave his life for the Salvadoran people. I am referring to Captain Jose Alfonso Chavez Garcia, a worthy example of devotion to service to the fatherland. His memory will always be a source of inspiration to every Salvadoran soldier who is fighting for our people's freedom and glory. As of today, the Special Anti- Terrorist Commando, CEAT, will bear Capt Chavez' name in just recognition of his professionalism and devotion to the fatherland's sacred values.

With these same feelings of admiration and affection, we greet the mothers, fathers, children, brothers, wives, and relatives of our soldiers, who in fulfilling their duties have written pages of fearlessness and courage, thereby endlessly prolonging their noble examples in our people's consciences.

At this Soldiers Day event, as president of the Republic and general commander of the Armed Forces, I strongly embrace all of the members of our armed institution.

The occassion is appropriate to tell the men in uniform that we feel proud of the main role that the Salvadoran Armed Forces have played throughout our Republic's history, and to reiterate that your mission of defending the Republic's sovereigty and integrity has been a decisive factor, which allowed our country to advance toward the goal of national progress.

This morning we had the privilege and honor to decorate with the highest military award the Armed Forces and Public Security corps, which heroically participated in the Salvadoran people's defense during the terrorist aggression on 11 November 1989. The members of those military units should feel proud and satisfied because they successfully fulfilled their mission of protecting the homeland and our people's freedom.

Our Armed Forces have been and will continue to be the guarantors of order and national stability in times of war and peace. The national constitution states that the Armed Forces were created to defend the sovereignty of the state and the integrity of its territory; to maintain peace, tranquility, and public security; and to abide by the constitution and other laws in effect.

The Armed Forces carry out their institutional duties within this juridical framework—a framework that gives them a permanent status and a conduct that is essentially apolitical and obedient and nondeliberative [no deliberativa] in matters of service. Their mission is clear, but it is evolutionary rather than static; it is part of the democratic scheme of things that is being so vigorously consolidated and developed in El Salvador.

Early in our administration we stated our concept on honor and the enormous responsibility which falls on the Armed Forces commander's shoulders. Referring to this, we said that we do not see command as an open license for abuse, arrogance, and violations. Instead, we see it as an honor that compels us to exercise it with the stature and dignity demanded by such a high post. We also see it as a great responsibility whose enormous burden will also be the source of our strength.

This is the framework within which we have oriented our actions and those of the high command so that the Armed Forces may maintain an institutional disciplinary line congruent with the role which it must carry out in our difficult situation and in the new historical phase we have begun.

Several programs have been carried out to achieve the Armed Forces' overall improvement, and to give an even greater scientific and technical training to those comprising their ranks. The professional training of its members, to the highest level possible, has been, is, and will be the Armed Forces high command's constant concern so that—in their role as soldiers and citizens—they may contribute to the glory of our homeland.

Aware of this responsibility, we are reiterating our agreement with the principles and values that are the basis and inspiration of the Armed Forces. We are renewing our commitment to continue promoting them so that institutional development is in line with the new situations that our country's life will face.

Nobody can ignore the sacrifices the armed institution has made throughout these sad and difficult years to defend the Salvadoran people and their dearest principles and values. This struggle for democracy and peace demanded of the Armed Force integral proficiency. Facts make this evident. It is evident not only in the form of professional achievements but also in the institutional adjustments the Armed Force have made, and this has made the Armed Force increasingly congruent with the democratic progress our country has been making.

We are very satisfied with the professionalism and the continuous progress that the Armed Force has made in the field of respect for human rights, one of the most critical and sensitive issues of the conflict. We know that much has yet to be done. All the command levels of the institution will continue working hard until arrogance, arbitrariness, and immoral behavior that may emerge in the Armed Force's rank is eradicated. This is a challenge that we must not and cannot ignore.

Consistent with this criterion, we have worked to professionalize and modernize the military. Persons who have become criminals have been put at the disposal of the proper judicial authorities. This is what has to be done for the good of the institution, and this will continue without hesitation.

This is a wonderful opportunity to speak about the most important subject and mission that civilians and military men must accomplish with civic devotion and patriotic willingness: to win peace.

Our fatherland cannot continue bleeding because of a fratricidal conflict. Our people have consolidated the democratic path for freely electing their government, and they have decided that this is the moment for reestablishing peace and for initiating a new phase of progress for our dear El Salvador.

The government and the political parties have agreed to work clearly and jointly to strengthen the dialogue process that has begun with the good offices of UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. The recent agreement revealed by Perez de Cuellar in Geneva created the framework for negotiations, and within this framework we will work seriously and diligently, and we will persevere as we committed ourselves to when I became president. We want the pacification of the country. We do not want El Salvador to have any more battlefields. Interpreting the will of the people, we want all differences resolved in the political arena, in peaceful competition. We will never renounce our struggle to achieve that goal. We have always said that peace, something that the Salvadoran people deeply want, is everybody's responsibility.

The government has clearly demonstrated that it has the firm political will to secure peace through dialogue. We hope that the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] will respond in kind and not make the error to view our attitude as a sign of weakness, because if it insists on irrational violence, it will find that we are firmly decided to defend our fatherland, our people, and institutionality.

Salvadorans: If we want peace, let us really work for it. Let us set aside sectarianism and ideological dogmatism to pave the road to peace.

Let us not allow selfish attitudes to hinder the achievement of that great goal. It is necessary for all Salvadorans to make way for patriotic and calm actions. We must bear in mind the historical moments we are experiencing. This is valid for both civilians and military. In the face of our national fate, we all share the same responsibilities.

Salvadoran soldiers: We greet you wherever you may be fulfilling your sacred mission of defending our national sovereignty, and we sincerely appreciate your hard work. We admire your courage and we acknowledge your devoted service to the people. We thank you for your noble action of offering your lives for the love of our fatherland, confronting dangers far away from your homes. May God bless your efforts and always protect you.

Thank you. [applause]

FMLN Communique Condemns Government Statements

PA0805205290 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 May 90

[Communique issued by the General Command of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, FMLN; place and date not given]

[Text] The FMLN announces:
1. To reaffirm its commitment for a negotiation, the FMLN met with Mr Alvaro de Soto, representative of UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, on 2 May and with representatives of political parties on 5 May. Still pending is a meeting with leaders of social forces represented by the Permanent Committee for a National Debate. In these meetings, we presented documents containing political arguments for the demilitarization and democratization of the country and a schedule leading to a definitive end to the war.

2. We have learned through the media about statements made by Arena [National Republican Alliance] President Armando Calderon Sol; Mr Alfredo Cristiani; and Coprefa [Press Committee of the Armed Forces] Director Maj Mauricio Chavez Caceres, who reaffirm their warmongering commitment to continue with the war if the U.S. military aid to El Salvador is reduced.

3. We reject the statements made by Mr Cristiani, the government, and the United States because they have described our recent military operations as contradictory to the negotiation process. We reject them because the Armed Forces, under the orders of Mr Cristiani, who is totally aware of the presence of U.S. advisers, maintain their military operations throughout the country by bombing, capturing, killing civilians in rural areas, and by repressing social organizations in the capital. Our activities do not contradict the negotiations because no cease-fire agreement has been signed yet and because they are ways to fight back against the army's military activities, the impunity of military officers, and the lack of democracy.

4. There are possible changes in the Armed Forces, which could adversely affect the investigation of the Jesuits' murder. We believe these changes would seriously affect the negotiation process and the possibility of signing a cease-fire agreement because it is not possible to reach agreements based on democratization as long as the army's impuniity is defended and as long as there is no purge in the army.

[Signed] General Command of the FMLN, 7 May 1990.

Three Americans Arrested in San Vicente

PA0805150990 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1211 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Members of a U.S. religious group and of the Independent Labor Union Federation of El Salvador have reported the arrest of three American women and three Salvadorans. They said that (Michelle Harley), (Patricia Tourney), and (Deborah Gratchan), as well as three Salvadorans, were arrested in San Vicente on Sunday by members of the 5th Infantry Brigade based there.

Those arrested were visiting our country to learn about the situation faced by those who have been displaced by the war and the respect for human rights in the country.

According to reports by the U.S. religious group and the Salvadoran labor union, the arrested people currently are at the Treasury Police headqurters.

Colonel Ponce Denies Divisions in Armed Forces

PA0805161290 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 7 May 90 p 10

[Text] Colonel Rene Emilio Ponce, chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, denied there is division in the Army, and dismissed the documents that have been published under the name of an alleged group of "young military officers."

Col. Ponce said the Army, as a disciplined body that abides by constitutional mandates, is subject to orders issued by President Alfredo Cristiani, commander general of the Armed Forces, in accordance with the Constitution.

In this regard, Col. Ponce emphasized that the Army also supports the peace talks being held between the government and the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front], although the rebels have continued their violent actions.

In the past few days, FMLN-FDR [Democratic Revolutionary Front] groups in San Salvador and in the interior of the country have carried out actions that contradict the proposals of their leaders, who allegedly want to search for peace through dialogue. Therefore, Col. Ponce added, the Armed Forces have been compelled to fulfill its constitutional duty of providing security to citizens.

Referring to the trial on the [assassination of] UCA [Central American University] Jesuit priests, Ponce said whoever has new evidence should appear before the tribunal in charge of this case to assist in the clarification of the incident.

FMLN Warns Military Change Will Affect Talks

PA0805175990 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1616 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] San Salvador, 8 May (ACAN - EFE)—The Salvadoran guerrillas warned today that the possible replacement of General Humberto Larios by Colonel Rene Emilio Ponce, current chief of staff of the Armed Forces, "will seriously affect the negotiation process" with the government, which will be resumed this coming 16 May in Venezuela. The Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) released a communique here today on the change in the Salvadoran military leadership as well as

the possible retirement of deputy Defense Minister Colonel Orlando Zepeda. "These changes will seriously affect the concerted cease-fire process, because one cannot reach agreements based on democratization while impunity prevails in the Army and it is not subjected to a thorough purge," the FMLN added.

Gen. Larios told reporters yesterday about his possible replacement by Col. Emilio Ponce in the Defense Ministry is a change which he regarded as "natural." "Eventually there may be a change of that sort. It is a natural and routine change," the defense minister said when asked about persistent rumors to this effect over the past few days in El Salvador.

Col. Ponce, a member of the 1966 graduation class known as "La Tandona," currently has great influence among the Armed Forces officers. He has held the post of chief of staff since the middle of last year.

The FMLN communique stated that Ponce's removal from the post of chief of state "would break the chain of responsibility of the high command in the assassination of the Jesuit priests." The Jesuit priests were assassinated on 16 November by alleged Armed Forces members, who have since been turned over to judiciary authorities.

Honduras

* Ecological Devastation Endangers Water Supply

90WN0006Z Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 21 Mar 90 p 20

[Article by Jenny Lavaire]

[Text] The destruction of the forests becomes greater with every passing day; the river basins are emptying; and Honduras is looking increasingly desolate and dry. Damage is done to 10 hectares of woodland every day, leaving a negative annual balance of more than 80,000 hectares cut and burned.

In the Central District alone, there have been 44 fires this year, which destroyed 425 hectares of woodland. According to the information gathered, the destruction of the forests is increasing by 20 percent each year.

With the presence of refugees in the country, the felling of trees has increased 30 percent in the La Mosquitia area alone, while in the other regions where foreigners also have been welcomed, excessive deterioration of the water basins and the extinction of fauna have been reported.

Tegucigalpa is one of the cities which finds itself most affected by the cutting and burning of the forests. This destruction can be seen on all four sides of the city.

The zone most seriously affected by the irreversible felling of trees is the mountain named Yerba Buena, located southwest of the capital. It is there that the Guacerique River, which supplies the Los Laureles Dam, the source of the water for the capital's population, rises.

The basin of the San Jose River, located on that same mountain, is also being systematically destroyed. This is creating a situation which is serious, since this river is the main source of supply for the Concepcion Dam, which was designed to provide the citizens of the capital with water in the near future.

Dam Flow Down

According to National Water and Sewage Service (SANAA) reports, the flow in the rivers supplying the Tegucigalpa dams is being reduced by 20 percent every year, with the result that 50 percent of the people in the capital are without a water supply.

All of the higher zones in Tegucigalpa have been without water for 2 years now. A little reaches them from time to time, but it is not enough even to satisfy thirst, because it is available for only 10 minutes at a time.

The SANAA authorities began to ration water at the end of February, but the situation is becoming more acute, since it has been noted that even in the low-lying zones, no water is available for periods of up to 2 consecutive weeks.

During the entire summer, the majority of the citizens in the capital spend time hauling water from rivers near the city, while vehicles selling water crowd into the slums and poor quarters to make a profit by charging the customers 2 lempiras per barrel.

A Sociocultural Problem

This week, four Public Security Force (FSP) agents and Honduran Corporation for Forest Development (Cohdefor) authorities arrested seven peasants in a settlement called Copanton, located about 15 km to the southwest of Tegucigalpa.

The peasants were destroying an area owned by Mr Manuel de Jesus Gomez, who reported them to the Cohdefor authorities. It was learned that the residents in this area have been felling trees in order to sell firewood to dozens of truck drivers for more than 4 years.

The individuals arrested were Pascual Zeron Amador, Jesus Antonio Lopez Turcios, Santiago Antonio Lopez, Pedro Benito Lopez, Jose de Jesus Lopez, and Julio Cesar Nunez. They were turned over to the Third Police Squad in the La Granja district and were later taken to police court, where they are currently being held.

At the time they were surprised by the police, the peasants were cutting down all the surrounding pine trees, left and right. Forest destruction in the area is estimated to have claimed more than 40 hectares.

Those arrested are poor people who have spent much of their lives engaged in the cutting of wood for subsistence.

The firewood is sold at a low price to the truck drivers who scout the zone every day.

Jose Emilio Cabrera, the Cohdefor technical engineer, says that more than four large trucks range this area daily to load firewood. Each vehicle takes 25 loads out on each trip, which means that more than 100 truckloads of firewood are taken out of this forest every day.

According to this technician, the woodcutters are required to obtain a special permit from Cohdefor, which calls for payment of 1 lempira for each load of wood cut.

Cabrera said that the peasants are not to blame for engaging in woodcutting, because the poverty in which they live forces them to do so. In addition, these individuals have no understanding of the consequences resulting from the destruction of the forests.

These peasants cannot be released from jail unless they pay a guarantee based on the extent of the forest destruction. This would not be very costly, but if the owner of the property chooses to file a complaint against them, they would have to deposit a larger guarantee.

However, the police authorities and Cohdefor itself are being criticized for arresting only the humble peasants who engage in the cutting of trees, while they do not bother the major exploiters of timber who have reduced vast pine forests to rubble.

Demand in the Capital

Cohdefor has established that firewood can be cut only in Lepaterique and Ojojona, Francisco Morazan, because these are areas in which there are no river tributaries. However, those individuals who want to engage in this work must join Agroforestry Cooperatives.

There are individuals in all parts of the country (truck drivers) who take firewood out illegally. Fines ranging from 200 to 3,000 lempiras have been established for this violation of the law.

In many cases, the percentage they have to pay depends on the amount of wood they have. For each load of wood in excess of the legal limit in their possession, they are charged 3 lempiras and 33 centavos. The money collected is deposited with the Cohdefor Fund Department.

On the basis of the studies carried out, it is estimated that 70 percent of the inhabitants of Tegucigalpa, all of them residents of the poor districts, use firewood for cooking.

The demand for firewood in the capital is so great that 80 percent of the bakeries use firewood, and only 20 percent of the bread is produced with equipment which burns diesel oil as fuel.

Nicaragua

Godoy Not Given Powers in Chamorro's Absence

PA0905031890 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1801 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Managua, 8 May (ACAN-EFE)—Nicaraguan Vice President Virgilio Godoy did not take over as head of state as he should have according to the law, because of the absence of President Violeta Chamorro, who traveled to Costa Rica to participate in the swearing-in ceremony in the Central American country.

This statement was made to ACAN-EFE today by Wilfredo Navarro, adviser in the office of the vice presidency, who said that Chamorro met with Godoy on 7 May to inform him about her trip to San Jose, but "at no time did she turn over the presidency to him."

"Vice President Virgilio Godoy is still working at his Independent Liberal Party (PLI) office in Managua because he still has not been given an office from which to carry out his duties as vice president," Navarro said.

According to the Constitution, which was enacted on 9 January 1987, the vice president will take over as president of the Republic in case of the temporary absence of the president. If the absence is definitive, the vice president will become the president for the rest of his term and the National Assembly will elect a new vice president, according to the constitution.

"Vice President Virgilio Godoy is not interested in demanding something that is denied to him," said the same source, who added: "Who knows who is in charge of the presidency now that Chamorro is outside the country?"

"Perhaps it is in the hands of Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo, son-in-law of Violeta Chamorro," said Navarro, who pointed out that Godoy did not "pay much attention" to this possibility.

"It is not that important because Mrs. Chamorro will be outside the country for only a few hours," according to the lawyer and secretary general of the PLI, which is headed by Godoy.

Ever since Violeta Chamorro assumed power on 25 April, Godoy has been left on the sidelines, according to leaders of the National Opposition Union (UNO), a coalition of 14 political parties which won the elections on 25 February of this year.

Ever since 25 April, Godoy has been left without an office to carry out his duties as vice president; therefore, he must use his party's office. Sources at the presidency pointed out that Chamorro will give Godoy a separate office at the presidential palace, where former President Daniel Ortega and former Vice President Sergio Ramirez conducted their various activities.

First Group of Rebels Surrenders Weapons

PA0905003890 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2317 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] El Almendro (Nicaragua), 8 May (ACAN-EFE)—The first 84 "contra" fighters today surrendered their rifles to the UN Observer Group in Central America (ONUCA) in El Almendro, a town located 270 km southeast of Managua.

This first group of rebels began demobilizing at 1230 (1830 GMT), one and one-half hours later than stipulated in the agreement signed on 5 May by Nicaraguan President Violeta Chamorro and a "contra" delegation headed by Commander Israel Galeano (Franklin).

Galeano delivered a speech to his troops today, during which he urged them to fulfill the demobilization agreement, which is scheduled to culminate on 10 June.

Commander Franklin Delivers Speech

PA0905005590 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2309 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Israel Galeano, the chief of general staff of the Nicaraguan Resistance [RN], better known as Franklin, says that his forces advocate peace and national reconciliation. This is what Franklin said:

[Begin Galeano recording] We are making progress in a process that [words indistinct]. The fact of our being here with Her Excellency, the president of the Republic, demonstrates our full will and interest as Nicaraguans in reaching a solution so that all Nicaraguans will feel that they are in a homeland that is very much their own and united in pursuing the objective of developing a destroyed society. [end recording]

President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro said the following:

[Begin Chamorro recording] I like what Commander Franklin says because what we have to do is reconstruct our homeland amid peace and reconciliation and also to (?demilitarize) our homeland. That is to say, the military aspect of the Sandinist government will be terminated little by little and as soon as possible. [end recording]

You have just listened to Nicaraguan President Chamorro.

The Managua declaration on peace and reconciliation signed by Nicaraguan President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, RN Commander Israel Galeano, aka Franklin, and His Eminence Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo as faithful witness, involves the following agreements.

1. The RN is complying with the cease-fire that has been agreed to, which entails an effective separation of forces and the concentration of RN forces in the delimited security zones, which is in the process of culmination.

2. The RN, to comply with the addendum to the Toncontin agreement, will continue the voluntary demobilization and will begin the disarmament of its troops at 1100 on 8 May in the security zone that it may agree to [que acuerde] in the presence of the United Nations Observer Group in Central America, ONUCA, and in the presence of His Eminence Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo. The process will culminate on 10 June of this year, at the latest, in all zones agreed to.

On her part, Her Excellency Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, in her capacity as president of the Republic of Nicaragua and defense minister, states that she has ordered an immediate withdrawal of all Army troops, security forces, and paramilitary forces from the areas agreed to in the cease-fire signed on 18 April. In addition, she has ordered the seizure of all weapons from the hands of civilians in the areas referred to, as well as the immediate destruction of the weapons.

2. [number as heard] The program for the reduction of the Armed Forces ordered in the inaugural speech of 25 April—whose implementation must begin immediately—will be announced on 10 June.

3. Her Excellency the president of the Republic reiterates her commitment to guarantee the physical and moral safety of each and every one of the RN fighters, their relatives, and the civilian population accompanying them.

4. Once the RN is disarmed, the government will grant legal status to the political organization that the RN may form in accordance with the laws on the subject.

5. Similarly, a development center will be established for the demobilized members in order to meet their physical needs; these centers will be defined by 31 May.

6. Her Excellency the president of the Republic thanks His Eminence Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo and the ONUCA and CIAV [International Support and Verification Commission] international commissions for their presence.

Managua, 4 May 1990.
The declaration was signed by Nicaraguan President Violeta de Chamorro; RN Commander Israel Galeano, Franklin; and His Eminence Cardinal Obando y Bravo, as faithful witness of the national peace and reconciliation.

Central Bank Devalues Cordoba by 43 Percent

PA0805163290 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Four days after the last Black Friday, Central Bank President Francisco Mayorga last night decreed a new 43-percent devaluation of the cordoba. The Central Bank decreed that, beginning today, the official exchange rate is 100,000 cordobas to the dollar and ordered slight changes for the dollar exchange rate in the unofficial market.

According to the Central Bank decree, starting today authorized exchange houses will purchase U.S. currency at 175,000 cordobas and sell it at 180,250 Cordobas to its customers. This is the third devaluation of the national currency in only 13 days of the new government.

Labor Minister's Salary Measures Criticized

PA0905043890 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] The official staple prices yesterday experienced an increase that almost put them on a level with the black market prices. In other words, small distributors yesterday began to sell staples at the same prices for which they are sold at the Eastern Market—where they will certainly skyrocket today. A liter of cooking oil rose to 250,000 cordobas; a pound of refined sugar rose to 53,000 cordobas; a pound of unrefined sugar rose to 45,000 cordobas; and a pound of brown sugar rose to 40,000 cordobas. The official price for a pound of corn is now 13,000 cordobas; a pound of sorghum now costs 7,000 cordobas; the pound of national rice costs 30,000; and a pound of imported rice now costs 35,000 cordobas.

The increase in official prices for staples sold through the country's small distributors confirms the national government's intentions of eliminating these centers and turning them into small stores, it has been revealed by ENABAS [National Enterprise for Staple Foods] officials. The decision would involve the complete elimination of a channel through which the population defended itself from speculators, the alarmed ENABAS officials stated.

The Eastern Market businessmen sharpened their claws yesterday to implement an increase in staple prices following the announcement that official prices were placed at a level with black market prices. Sugar is the only product whose price was immediately raised by the businessmen, and a pound now costs 60,000 cordobas. Meanwhile, perishable products and meat prices, as well as staple prices, were raised this morning in the supermarkets.

A pound of potatoes was raised to 40,000 cordobas; a cabbage costs 97,000 cordobas; and a dozen lemons cost 25,000 cordobas. A pound of meat cost between 200,000 and 220,000 cordobas; a bar of soap rose to 136,000 cordobas, and a gallon of cooking oil now costs 1. 3 million cordobas. Also, five pounds of rice cost 168,000 cordobas; five pounds of sugar cost 270,000 cordobas; five pounds of beans cost 192,000 cordobas; and five pounds of corn cost 72,000.

The much-publicized salary increase announced by the economy magician Panchito [Francisco] Mayorga has turned out to be a bloody trick against the country's public employees, who yesterday warned that they will declare a national strike if the government does not decree a higher increase. Labor Minister Francisco Rosales was the spokesman who surprised everyone with the announcement of a 60 percent mini-increase in salaries. He admitted that the salary increase does not correspond to the current price of the basic basket, and it lags one month behind.

The labor minister admitted that the measure is unpopular, adding that the new government has yet to offer a just and dignified salary to the workers. Rosales favors salary increases every 15 days, but he warned that the government has decreed that the increases should be effective every month. The minister believes that the 29-product basic basket can be purchased for a little over 29 million cordobas, when the truth is that this amount represents a third, or less, of its current price.

Referring to the 60-percent increase announced by Rosales, labor leaders who demanded a minimum salary of 20 million cordobas stated that the minimum salary of a public employee will purchase two liters of milk every day, meaning only one product of the basic basket. However, the labor minister cares very little about this. He said that each person has a right to make his own choice.

[Begin Rosales recording] Each person has his own needs. I think, generally speaking, we are trying to defend the salary. Each person has his own needs and levels of satisfaction. It is clear that some measures are totally unpopular while others are not so popular. If I had announced a bigger increase, the measure would have been more than welcome. We are simply adopting a measure aimed at defending the workers purchasing power according to our current indexes. [end recording]

Mr. Rosales is eager to figure prominently, but he put himself in a ridiculous position when he dared say that the workers never participated in the adoption of this salary increase. Rosales was daring enough to proclaim that he was responsible for this decision. This is what the minister said when he was told that the CST [Sandinist Central Organization of Workers] labor leaders will challenge the salary increase because they were not taken into consideration as the Sandinist government did.

[Begin Rosales recording] Each person has the right to think what he wants. As far as I know, there is no law, decree, or circular that creates the labor leaders' participation or gives them the right to decide about the salary. There is no....[changes thought] I am the one who has been implementing the idea about participation. It did not previously exist. I am the one who has proposed it, meaning that the labor union will be able to discuss things with the appropriate ministry. [end recording]

The minister dared to ignore the workers' right to participate in the adoption of these decisions—a right that is stated in the constitution of the Republic and the labor agreements he is trying to obviate. Rosales is acting like the revolution never existed, and this is a dangerous situation for the Labor Ministry.

Chamorro, Godoy Differences Analyzed

PA0805151590 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 3 May 90 p 2

[Report by Adolfo Miranda Saenz]

[Text] The differences between Violeta Chamorro and Virgilio Godoy are not new. There were profound differences between the two even before UNO [National Opposition Union] nominated Godoy as its vice presidential candidate. That is why the politicians who follow Chamorro supported the vice presidential candidacy of Bolanos Geyer, whom they considered the lesser of two evils. On one occasion, before he was nominated as candidate, Godoy expressed his feelings about Chamorro by referring to her as "a stupid old woman; a bag of broken bones."

During the UNO electoral campaign, Chamorro and Godoy tried to cover up their differences to avoid giving the impression that they were heading a fragile and divided coalition even before the electoral triumph. However, it was not possible to hide such differences completely. Chamorro's right hand—her son-in-law Antonio Lacayo—and Virgilio Godoy's right hand—PLI [Independent Liberal Party] leader Jaime Bonilla—came to blows during a meeting in Chinandega.

The rivalry between Chamorro and Godoy is not personal. It is rooted in profound ideological differences between the two and involves the politicians that follow each one of them.

Mrs. Chamorro represents the moderate and pragmatic sector of UNO. Meanwhile, Virgilio Godoy leads the radical sector. Two very intelligent persons who have a clear concept of political pragmatism stand behind Mrs. Chamorro: Antonio Lacayo and Alfredo Cesar.

Mrs. Chamorro wants to attain peace and stability in Nicaragua to carry out her government program and, consequently, she has pledged that the contras will be demobilized and disarmed to abide by the constitution and maintain the Army's institutional status. Virgilio Godoy, on the other hand, would prefer a government that, in contradiction of the constitution, "cuts off the Sandinists' heads," gives power to the contras, and engages in an open confrontation with the Sandinist National Liberation Front's [FSLN] 41 percent of the voters.

A "Godoy-style" government would bring a new war to Nicaragua. Obviously, the Sandinists would let no one "cut off their heads" and the FSLN's 41 percent of the voters would take to the streets and participate in many forms of struggle.

Mrs. Chamorro prefers the road to a reconciliation, including the Sandinists in the reconciliation (otherwise, what kind of a reconciliation would it be...?). To effectively guarantee this, she has wisely opted to maintain the Army's institutional status and respect its chain of command, including General Humberto Ortega's leadership.

The statement that Gen. Humberto Ortega is the problem or "the bone of contention" is a trap "a la Godoy." The differences and rivalries between two former UNO factions are older and deeper than this.

We can say the same about the contras' statements that they will not turn in their weapons because Gen. Humberto Ortega and the Army's general staff are still in their posts. The truth is that they will not turn in their weapons as long as there is no government which guarantees that they will have their quota of power—of military leadership—and that their hated Sandinist enemies will be crushed, or that "their heads will roll." In other words: vengeance and power. This would unleash a new war.

Virgilio Godoy and the contras follow the same political guideline and they carry out their tactics in tandem.

What do the Sandinists do amidst all this? They support Mrs. Chamorro. Mrs. Chamorro's line leads to peace whereas Godoy's line leads to war. The Sandinists—and almost all Nicaraguans—do not want a war, so their support of Mrs. Chamorro's policy is logical.

Likewise, Mrs. Chamorro had to understand that her most dangerous political enemy was not the FSLN, but the "Godoyistas" and the contras. Consequently, it stands to reason that the best thing she can do to rule in peace is to accept Daniel Ortega's offer to help.

The FSLN is a powerful political force in Nicaragua. The rapprochement between the FSLN and Mrs. Chamorro will let the new government really rule and the Nicaraguans will be able to enjoy peace and stability at last. It will be a different thing if the new government's economic and social policy proves good or bad for the people. We will wait and see. If it is not good, I believe the FSLN will not support that policy. However, as far as supporting that line of peace and reconciliation is concerned, an alliance is already being made between Mrs. Chamorro's government and the FSLN.

The "Godoyist" faction is accusing Mrs. Chamorro of treason but the truth is that if she had followed the "Godoyista" line of confrontation and vengeance we would be immersed in a bloodier and more painful civil war than the last two wars put together.

Now then, the "Godoyistas" cannot talk about treason when everyone knows that Virgilio Godoy—and he has said so—intends to displace Mrs. Violeta Chamorro from the Presidency. The "Godoyist" group has exerted pressure on former UNO deputies to vote in favor of an anti-Chamorro directive at the National Assembly to obstruct her government. There was a complete plan against Mrs. Chamorro, to oust her from government,

and several minister and vice minister hopefuls were involved in it (hence, Mrs. Chamorro's delay in completing her cabinet).

Mrs. Chamorro must act very carefully given the conspiracy of the "Godoyista" faction in UNO.

The plan of the so-called "Godoyist" Political Council—which tried to impose itself on the president as a "ruling council" to manipulate her—has failed for the time being. However, Virgilio Godoy will not settle for this, and he can deal an unexpected blow any moment!

One way of getting rid of Godoy would be to follow up the charges about the CEIS [expansion unknown] funds and to attain a ruling that would make him lose the vice presidency. The charges were not issued by the Sandinists or anyone in Mrs. Chamorro's group. They were issued by important directorate board members in Virgilio Godoy's own party. If a court rules that Godoy is guilty, the National Assembly will have to appoint a new vice president. The votes of the deputies in Mrs. Chamorro's group and the FSLN's group would guarantee the election of a vice president (who would not be a Sandinist) who is Mrs. Chamorro's friend; who helps her government; and who will not try to betray or displace her, as Virgilio Godoy and the former UNO's Political Council tried to do.

Panama

PRD Official on Construction of U.S. Bases

PA0805172590 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 28 Apr 90 pp 28-A, 35-A

[Report by Felicitas Pliego]

[Excerpts] Nils Castro, secretary of international affairs of the Panamanian Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD], has said that the United States is building two military bases in Panama and is doing this with [President Guillermo] Endara's authorization. The two new bases are located at the former Panama Defense Forces installations of Fort Cimarron and Rio Hato, located east and west of Panama City. From here they control the communications and access between the eastern and western parts of the country.

Castro added that without Endara's authorization, the United States is building at least three more bases: in Mariato, a natural port on the south-westernmost tip of Azuero Peninsula on the Pacific coast, where they are planning to open a submarine base for nuclear submarines; on Coiba Island, the largest island in the country, also located on the Pacific, which will be used for telecommunications purposes, for tracking satellites and control flights, and as a recreation center for high-ranking U.S. officers; and on the Caribbean coast (on the Atlantic), in the area closest to Central America, in the western third of the country, in the Teribe area, where they are building another base which they claim will be used for strategic protection of the oil pipeline—Alaskan oil is pumped across the western part of Panama on its way to the east coast of the United States. Castro also said that in addition to these three bases, the United States is building another military installation in Darien Province, the region that borders Colombia.

Castro stressed that Panama is becoming a permanent base for U.S. weapons to control not only the country, but the rest of the region.

The chief of the Panamanian resistance abroad said that by giving Panamanian land for the construction of new, permanent U.S. military bases, the Endara regime is violating the Canal treaties.

He added that U.S. forces have also taken over areas that previously had been returned to Panama under the Canal treaties. He said this is equivalent to 65 percent of the land and waters of the former Canal Zone.

Castro stressed that in violation of those treaties, which establish the gradual and progressive elimination of U.S. military bases, the aforementioned bases are being built in locations far from the former Canal Zone. He said huge investments are being made to build new permanent military bases.

Castro said the basic economic structure of the Panamanian Government has been left in the hands of former executives of the Chase Manhattan Bank, who now control the comptrollership, the Banco Nacional de Panama, and the Finance Ministry. He added that Vice President Ford, who is the planning and economic policy minister, is linked to insurance companies that are subsidiaries of U.S. companies, something that has led the U.S. media to already speak of the "Rockefeller faction in Panamanian politics."

Castro said Ford and Endara are linked to money laundering and that several officials of the Panamanian Government have ties with the Cali Cartel.

Speaking on behalf of PRD Secretary General Darinel Espino, Castro denied that former presidential candidate Carlos Duque—who is involved in import business activities—speaks for the PRD.

It is also false, Castro added, to believe that it is premature to assess the actions of the Endara government. There are enough facts to condemn it as a puppet government directed and supervised by officers from the Pentagon and the U.S. State Department. It is a disastrous govenment, a repressive and inefficient government.

Duque believes, he said, that the effort made by the Endara government to reactivate the economy is obvious. The people who make up that government, Castro continued, are those who spent three years calling for a U.S. invasion. The government is so inefficient that it has failed to get at least a fraction of the aid promised by Washington. All Endara has done so far to reactivate the economy is his hunger strike, he mocked.

Duque says, Castro noted, that it is the duty of every Panamanian to strengthen the foundations of the Endara government for the sake of national reconciliation. This, he remarked, rather than a Duque recognition, is a Duque concession and it is shameful, he emphasized. "He adds that one must accept the guarantees offered by the government noting that" there is now freedom for political party activities. This, in addition to being shameful, is also absurd.

He is saying all this precisely when several members of the PRD leadership, especially its secretary general, have gone underground, Castro remarked.

He pointed out that the arrest warrant against Darinel Espino was a reprisal because the PRD released a statement supporting the agreement that the Group of Rio approved on Panama in Mexico.

This shows, Castro indicated, that the PRD's stand is exactly the same as that of the Group of Rio. It is not what Duque says. According to the Group of Rio, the occupation troops must leave. U.S. forces can remain in Panama only in specified places and in agreed upon numbers, as well as other specifications established in the canal treaties. A government with ample representation must be installed as soon as possible. It must be a government resulting from general elections to give the country a democratic solution and a legitimate government.

In this regard, the PRD fully agrees with the Group of Rio.

I think that Carlos Duque's statements, aside from recognizing the Endara government, show a great deal of submission and opportunism. This citizen is only trying to save his businesses and personal interests, attempting to make political concessions in the name of the PRD. However, the party completely rejects this.

What we do agree with is that there are differences within the PRD and that there is a need to renew leadership cadres: he would be the first one who would have to get out. Castro added: Duque also states that an effort must be made to avoid destabilizing actions for the sake of PRD unity.

The PRD is only interested in maintaining unity with patriotic forces and personalities to fulfill the objectives I already mentioned: the compliance with the canal treaties, the departure of the occupation forces, the resumption of the democratic development process, etc.

The party, he underlined, feels that there is no need to maintain old alliances that belong in the past. These alliances were superseded by events and only serve to neutralize patriotic and democratic forces.

In addition, he concluded, Duque's statements are not consistent with what is occurring in Panamanian society, a society that has been reacting, becoming organized, and voicing its protest in view of the current situation.

Even Panamanian business sectors agree that there have been no attempts to reactivate the economy.

Justines' Chauffeur Makes Statement to Southcom

PA0805221390 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 7 May 90 p 16 B

["Text" of the transcript of a "conversation" between Ulises Nunez, chauffeur of the Justines family, and "alleged intelligence officers of the Southern Command;" no date given]

[Text] [Ulises] Iris [Munoz, Ulises Nunez' girlfriend] secretary of [former chief of staff of the Panama Defense Forces] Colonel Justines, or rather of Col. Justines' daughter, Guadalupe [Justines de Rodriguez]. I have a taxi and they [the Justines family members] called me when they needed me. Then, we returned from the interior [of the country]. When we returned to the house, the hole was opened.

[OICS] [Southern Command Intelligence Officer]: You say the hole was opened and that the money had been taken out. The suspicions then fell on you.

[Ulises] Not directly on me, but on Iris. Many people knew about that money being there...many people know but they have not been called in to be investigated or anything. The owner of the money, she knew about it and so did her brother, and a friend of Lupe's brother, that is, her boyfriend who is the son of the owner of the Tauro Tannery, who has connections with [former General Manuel] Noriega.

I wanted to file charges at the PTJ [Judicial Technical Police] and the girl Lupe Justines did not want to. She did not want to file the charges. Later, about one month later she filed the charges and we were arrested...that money must be found...Loaiza. Then came the investigations by the Office of the Prosecutor; one cannot trust those people. Then Loaiza told me: "Do you think that because Lupe's father is detained he is nothing but a rag doll?" Loaiza said that money must be found, and if the money is found, he would release me. I wanted to speak with someone, but I was not allowed to speak with anyone.

[OICS] Who is Loaiza...?

[Ulises] Captain Loaiza, PTJ director. Then, I feel that everything that has happened is a trap, a trap against the girl in order to clear themselves out of it—you understand? I fell because I was running around with the girl...

I was being followed...about 5 days...when I opened the door, the PTJ gets in. They parked the car, identified themselves as PTJ people. I recognize the PTJ ID cards, the old one and the new one...three guys came in. One guy tells me I do not know what about the PTJ...The guy put his gun here...I hit him and threw him on the floor and then the other guy beat me and cracked my head open. The car is still stained with blood...Then they took me to Villa Lorena [in the outskirts of Panama City] and

there was a white van used for torturing; they are closed vans, but they are used for torturing...they put a hood over me, they tortured me, beat me, broke a finger. I still have the scars, they cut me, they prodded me with electricity...they asked me where was the money, they beat me, they mistreated me, they had me hanging and things like that...Then, they were going to kill me...they took me to Chepo, took me to a farm and told me: "The one who should be here is Justines, not you. All we want from you is that you cooperate." They had about 10 cars. They moved me from one car to another, they would put me inside the trunk, with my hands tied, all tied up...they would put a gun here, prod me with electricity. They forced me to record a cassette: "Mama, turn over the money you have put away."...Then, they went to La Colorada [Nunez' hometown in Veraguas Province] in PTJ cars, along with a guard, and they searched the whole house.

Then they told me...if you begin to delve into this thing, we will kill you at once because it is easy to find out about it.

They told me: You have been saved. Loaiza, Captain [Leslie] Loaiza is not here, otherwise we would have made you talk a long time ago and he would have killed you...We need that money because we have to pay Loaiza. Loiza wants money. We have to pay him because Loaiza wants the money to get other people and Loaiza will deliver them to me, to us...and that money is to buy the goods for us. They were going to get Lupe. The people who got the child also got me. They got me first and then they got the child.

[OICS] What were the ties between Capt. Loaiza and Guadalupe?

[Ulises] Look...Loaiza was very interested in finding the money and he did not want many people to know about it...

Look...I am going to tell you something...in Aguadulce, there are people involved.

[OICS] You have to take very good care of yourself.

[Ulises] I have not done anything...That girl Iris, who works with Lupe, do not follow her, it is me...I know things about them...Iris helped me carry Lupe's money...

[OICS] Are you involved with them?

[Ulises] She called my radio taxi and I went...

[OICS] Then there are more than $300,000 here.

[Ulises] I was going to Panama City to talk to Loaiza today.

[OICS] No, no, no, no...negative, negative.

[Ulises] I have not filed any charges because they told me: "If you file any charges, we will know it at once and anything you say, we will know it at once...the smallest step you take at the PTJ [Technical Judicial Police] we will know about it." And that is true.

They called me and they told me: It is all right...you are cashing in with us, do not talk, do not talk, and do not file any charges. If you file any charges we will kill you and your family if you talk...

We will "get more people. You are a poor shit...we do not care about that...We are interested in the other thing, the millions, they said. Those millions...We are going to get Lucas...I have a half brother who is a close friend of Tason. And Tason is the fiance of my half sister. [no closing quotation marks as published]

[OICS] Did Capt Loaiza have very good relations with Noriega?

[Ulises] Certainly, I do not understand why he is working there...

[OICS] Col. Justine was in charge of the bank and he stole a lot of money...We are going to have to look for a way to protect you...

[Ulises] Iris has a sister who is Loaiza's secretary. Her name is Lieutenant Etelvina Munoz. She is working with Loaiza. She is in Panama.

[OICS] Ha...ha...ha...ha.

[Ulises] Lupe was summoned to the prosecutor's office to testify on the money [matter] and on other matters and that woman did not show up...

[OICS] Listen. There, at the prison, someone...very close to Col. Justines, very very close to him, closely linked to him, is trying to obtain information...It might even be someone from the PTJ who is in prison alongside Col. Justines.

[Ulises] They are aware of my case and since there is money involved in this...

[OICS] How much money would be needed to get Noriega out at this time?

[Ulises] I was detained because they wanted to get information from me... They asked me: where is the rest of the Lupe's money which has been buried, where is this, and where is that....

[Ulises] I recognized one of the PTJ members, he is a tall man, who walks like fool, a vile lackey. I can take you to the PTJ so that you look at him and know who he is...

[OICS] You can never do that. That would be like putting your head in the lion's mouth... When they call you there in Panama, you should get in touch with either one of us. Because that can mean solving or not solving this case. Or it could mean your life, because whoever kills a child can kill anyone.

[Ulises] They told me: You are not involved in this. Justines is the one who should be here. Iris is Lupe's

secretary, and that is where the PTJ [comes in]. I am going to tell you something: Be aware of the PTJ because the same links existing before still exist there. Underhand...underhand... when I was being interrogated at the PTJ the same employees who worked under the Noriega regime arrived there and asked: "how is the Cholo [Indian]?...referring to [former Lieutenant Colonel Nivaldo] Madrinan. "The Cholo is fine, he is doing this and that. [No end quotation mark] Those were people involved in politics who were right there at the PTJ. I wish all of them were fired to see what are they going to do...

[OICS] A thief can dress up like a monk, he will look like a monk, but still he will be a thief...

[Ulises] There are millions hidden in other houses...at Lucas (Gronchi) house are over $800,000 hidden under the ceiling. They had money in shoe boxes, everywhere. The money amounts to millions.

[OICS] Why is Captain Loaiza from the PTJ directly linked to Col. Justines? He [Justine] is in jail, at El Renacer [penitentiary]. Through whom you could establish contacts at the prison and get information...

[Ulises] Loaiza told me: "We are going to give you a handgun, we will give you a permit, we will give you that so you help us,"...However, those people are now calling and telling me: 'We gave you an opportunity but Loaiza wants $20,000...'

Attorney General on Chauffer's Remarks

PA0805222590 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 7 May 90

[Report on statements by Attorney General Rogelio Cruz by unidentified reporter at the Attorney General's Office in Panama City; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Attorney General Rogelio Cruz has made important statements regarding the murder of former Colonel Justines' grandson.

[Cruz] Mr. Ulises Nunez was with me and his attorney all day on 4 May. Mr. Nunez, his attorney, and I left this office and headed for the assistant prosecutor's office where Nunez for the first time filed a report on his kidnapping on the evening of 29 March 1990.

Therefore, I do not see how anyone could have distorted, influenced, or in any way altered his statements. Moreover, the statements he made on 4 May here at the Attorney General's Office before the third circuit prosecutor and ourselves, and the report he later filed at the assistant prosecutor's office are the first statements he has made before the proper authorities; they are the first statements he has made before the proper authorities [repeats himself]. All other statements that he might have made prior to these were made before the wrong authorities and perhaps before foreign authorities. Therefore, such statements lack any value for Panama's public prosecutor's office.

Ulises Nunez was kidnapped and subjected to constant psychological pressure during the nearly 48 hours of his captivity and even after his release. This pressure terrorized him to the point that he moved to Santiago where he virtually hid himself. He feared for his life; he was afraid of being killed if he pointed any fingers.

Under these circumstances, Nunez reportedly met a Southern Command official to whom he spoke. We not only have that recording, but we have also produced a transcript. We noticed the great horror that Nunez was feeling. It was not until the evening of 5 April, when we managed to bring Cancio Ciacci Tason to talk with Ulises Nunez, that the latter realized that he had never been in danger.

[Reporter] Rogelio Cruz ruled out any involvement by Captain Lelie Loaiza, Technical Judicial Police Director, in the murder of the grandson of former Colonel Marcos Justines:

[Cruz] I believe and insist that as of this moment there is nothing that suggests to me or to the special prosecutor that Leslie Loaiza was involved in any way, that he was involved in any way [repeats himself]—I want to underscore this—in the crimes that we are investigating.

[Reporter] Attorney General Cruz referred to the evidence that Special Prosecutor Rodrigo Miranda plans to present:

[Cruz] If Miranda has the recording with the statements that Ulises Nunez made before Soto [not further identified, but presumably a member of the U.S. Southern Command], which is the same thing that I have, I really do not believe that it will constitute any evidence to Miranda's favor.

Special Prosecutor Miranda Suspended

PA0805202790 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1737 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] The Attorney General's Office suspended Special Prosecutor Rodrigo Miranda Morales from his functions. Attorney General Rogelio Cruz made the announcement:

[Begin Cruz recording] Based on an analysis made last night, we have concluded that no charges were made against [Judicial Technical Police Chief] Leslie Loaiza, not even in the recorded statement that has been mentioned so many times, much less in the testimony under oath that Ulises Nunez gave us last Friday.

Furthermore, Special Prosecutor Miranda mentioned alleged statements by the government and justice minister and myself to back his accusations against Leslie Loaiza. However, at no time have the government, justice minister or I made any statement against Loaiza in relation to the case under investigation.

Consequently, and also taking into consideration the need to start complying with the Legislative Assembly's

decision that a special prosecutor should complete the investigations concerning Hugo Spadafora's case, we have evaluated the circumstances. In accordance with the law, we have decided to suspend Special Prosecutor Rodrigo Miranda until the investigation is over.

This measure has been adopted independent of the disciplinary action we began Friday against Special Prosecutor Miranda, as we feel that he has not complied with duties established by law. We will not analyze this right now, but I believe that he has committed several violations in regard to his duties. [end recording]

Marchosky on Questions Sent to Attorney General

PA0905003590 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2356 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] This evening, Magistrate Eusebio Marchosky sent a list of questions to the Attorney General's Office so that Government and Justice Minister Ricardo Arias Calderon may answer the questions under oath settling the case about the withholding of information.

[Begin Marchosky recording] Today I presented a document to the Attorney General's Office asking that Minister Ricardo Arias Calderon make a statement under oath and answer the list of questions I present in my document. This list of questions is aimed at learning, in a statement made under oath, the government and justice minister's version about the case.

I want to emphasize this does not mean I take back what I said—I maintain my position—but the government and justice minister's statements, if they are true, would represent a serious accusation against the U.S. Government and Army because the management of justice in Panama has not functioned due to lack of access to the information which is included in the documents that were seized by the U.S. Army. [end recording]

Electoral Tribunal President Pulice Resigns

PA0805173890 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1536 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Panama City, 8 May (ACAN-EFE)—Supreme Court President Carlos Lucas Lopez has announced that Electoral Tribunal President Yolanda Pulice, who has been accused of various irregularities in the 1984 and 1989 elections, resigned her post today.

On 10 May 1989, Pulice annulled the elections that had been held three days earlier and which were won by the parties opposed to Manuel Antonio Noriega's regime. However, she revoked that decision in December following Noriega's ouster as a result of the U.S. invasion, and proclaimed the triumph of current President Guillermo Endara.

Some days ago Pulice was the subject of various accusations from a prosecutor who is also investigating alleged irregularties in the 1984 elections, in which she declared Nicolas Ardito Barletta the winner. Ardito Barletta only remained as president for one year, when the military forced him to resign.

Lucas Lopez told the press that the Supreme Court's plenum will meet today to review the situation. However, he said that he does not believe that a new Electoral Tribunal president will be appointed for a few weeks yet.

Newspaper Owner Attacks Arias Calderon

PA0905040290 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 7 May 90 p 22-A

["Counterpoint" column article by LA PRENSA Director and President I. Roberto Eisenmann: "What Is Happening"]

[Text] Dr. Ricardo Arias Calderon (RAC), the Christian Democratic Party president, Panama's first vice president and government and justice minister, has decided to organize a campaign to gain power among the 700 LA PRENSA shareholders to, among other objectives, "oust Bobby [I. Roberto] Eisenmann."

Why is this?
It so happens that RAC was invited by Bobby Eisenmann and other citizens to help us organize Panama's free newspaper [LA PRENSA]. The newspaper was to be independent, truthful, a fighter against lies, in favor of freedom, civil life, and against militarism. LA PRENSA has not deviated from its original stance for one minute. RAC, however, is no longer in opposition; today he is a ruler. Today he gets annoyed because LA PRENSA is independent, truthful, civil, and anti-military. He says that a headline that read: "Uncertainty Prevails in the Country"—when, undoubtably, that was what was happening— was a "LA PRENSA irresponsibility." At that moment of total uncertainty, when top officers in his government were calling LA PRENSA desperately to find out what was happening, RAC decided to announce that everything was normal.

It so happens that a caricature that depicted a olive green shooting star was said to be a treacherous attack on the Christian Democratic Party by Bobby Eisenmann, as if the LA PRENSA caricatures are made by the newspaper's director. The LA PRENSA caricatures appear in a page called "Counterpoint" and are independent graphic opinions that are signed by their authors. The mentioned caricature was given to me by the respected citizen and architect, Ernesto de la Guardia III, who told me that he had voted for the Christian Democrats and asked me to publish his graphic opinion that was signed "E III." I had one other alternatiave in this decision: publish a citizen's opinion or censure it. LA PRENSA, faithful to the mandate that RAC helped to form, decided to publish it, as it has always done, even with opinions that are contrary to LA PRENSA itself.

It so happens that [Public Force Chief Eduardo] Herrera was about to retire from the Public Force and RAC had

decided that [Public Force Deputy Chief Aristides] Valdonedo was to be the new chief. Serious and respected citizens started to accuse Valdonedo of torture. Instead of separating him from his post and proceeding to conduct an investigation, RAC prferred the policy of ruining the victims' reputation. When a prisoner accused Valdonedo of being the intellectual author of the machinegunning and burning down of Mansion Dante [well known store in Panama City], Valdonedo denied the accusations, privately promised to cooperate with the indentification of those who had committed this crime, and then came out with his famous "I am not sure" (that the Panama Defense Forces were involved in this action). Valdonedo's attitude showed a total lack of respect for the country. RAC kept silent, Valdonedo is still in his post, and the Christian Democratic Party accuses Bobby Eisenmann of plotting against the Public Force.

It so happens that in the case of the monstrous crime of the Rodriguez Justines boy—where alledgedly Judicial Technical Police and Public Force agents, as well as military prisoners and officers who have taken asylum at diplomatic missions—RAC (this time after convincing his two slate companions) has not separated those accused from their posts until an investigation is conducted, but has preferred to accuse the accusers (among them a magistrate and a special prosecutor) of being irresponsible, then develops a plot thesis, and talks about "not tolerating..." which recalls people of horrible memory.

It so happens that confronted with the political reality of a people that do not trust—and justifiably so—the Public Force, the Technical Judicial Police, the Air Force, etc., RAC prefers to deny reality and accuse LA PRENSA, and more specifically the author of this commentary, of hurting him politically. I am accused of being irresponsible, of plotting, of having party interests (that I do not have)...in short, of some of the things that Noriega accused me.

It so happens that it is said that LA PRENSA only criticizes RAC. Ask President Guillermo Endara, Vice President Guillermo Ford, Foreign Minister Julio Linares, and many more if this is true. The truth is that the most controversial topic in the country is the Public Force and that is why it gets so much attention. Thus, obviously RAC is criticized because the Public Force is his responsibility.

As it has been impossible for us to talk, I use this vehicle to present my position in a crystal clear manner to RAC:

1. I consider you to be one of the most deserving and valuable politicians in the country. I respect your party and party members for their organization and unobjectionable merits in the struggle against the dicatorship. The only ones that can harm the Christian democracy are you and the demo-Christians. People will judge you for your acts, not for what this LA PRENSA servant says or does not say about your acts.

2. LA PRENSA will faithfully continue to follow its original mandate, the same one that RAC helped to form. It will continue to be civil, anti-military, and will continue to promote a legitimate democracy. It will continue to be independent and critical, as a good newspaper should be.

3. The manifested wish to "oust Bobby Eisenmann" by gaining power appears to be another senseless act by a party and a politician in power. This should be thought over because you could lose by winning or lose by losing. I do not believe any Panamanian—including those who hate me—want LA PRENSA to become a sort of MATUTINO of the Christian Democratic Party in power or a partisan propaganda leaflet.

I advise you that I will do nothing to confront the Christian Democratic Party's attack; I will not make an effort or ask for a vote... I will not reply. I will trust, as I have always done, in the good judgment of LA PRENSA shareholders. If I am wrong, I will pick up my hat and say goodby, knowing that I am at peace with my conscience.

4. Finally, my dear Ricardo, a personal request. Please take off the helmet. It does not become you. It is grotesque. Do not continue to defend what is defenseless. The conversion of gorillas is impossible. Quicken your learning process on power. Learn that criticism of a political act such as the Public Force is not a personal attack. Tune in to your people who admire and respect you. They do not want an army and much less a disguised army. They do not want a police corps formed by soldiers. They want civilian police to protect them. They want their usual dear cops [pacos]. The problem is based on military officers. They want to trust authority. Do not say that everything is normal when there is uncertainty. When problems crop up, do not deny them, do not blame Bobby Eisenmann... resolve them! Separate the Valdonedos from their posts, fire the Villalazes, designate a civilian police chief. Take the bull by its horns. The time is now. The civil-minded people will support you. You will easily return to being the authentic Ricardo that we all respect and admire.

Argentina

Economy Minister Addresses IMF Committee

PY0805152690 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0040 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 May (NA)—In a speech addressed to the IMF acting committee in Washington, Economy Minister Erman Gonzalez today expressed Argentina's rejection of the sanctions that are placed on the IMF debtors.

Gonzalez also endorsed "the substantial increase in the contributions" made by IMF members and voiced optimism over the implementation of his plan in Argentina, although he noted that "the cost of our difficult transition might be reduced if the debt problem were solved."

He asked industrialized countries to open their markets, without discrimination, to the products of other countries. He expressed his hopes that "the reunification of Germany and the transformation in Eastern Europe will be favorable for developing countries."

Gonzalez stressed "for many countries of the region it is essential to implement serious internal adjustments and to achieve full stability."

He said, however, "growth will not be guaranteed without a reduction of the heavy burden of the services on the foreign debt and without normal access to international capital markets." He added "we are ready for constructive dialogue and for a realistic approach" that may lead to "a permanent solution."

Gonzalez expressed "our support for the strategy of cooperation and for solving the problem of the delayed payment of overdue obligations owed by some IMF members." In a statement that clearly supported Peru, he said "we do not see any justification in the proposed sanctions, like the eventual suspension of the right to vote."

"We believe that the adoption of new punitive measures will not help solve the problem of the delayed payment of overdue obligations," the minister said. He added that a suspension "would be a disproportionate step for a situation that is being controlled through preventive measures and appropriate financial mechanisms."

Gonzalez added that the economic plan in Argentina will have lasting success, because "there has been a remarkable reduction in the inflation rate and an increase in the fiscal surplus, while markets have been freely operating."

In addition, he noted President Carlos Menem confirmed that "the course that we have chosen cannot be modified," and that "the Argentine people are now supporting us because they can see more clearly this is the right path for achieving the much desired economic growth."

"Now we need supplementary support from the international financial community to continue with our costly structural reforms, without which our current success will take too long to consolidate," the minister said.

He added: "This is a crucial point in which this support should be based," adding that he is confident "the IMF executive board will soon consider the reactivation of the program that was agreed upon in November 1989."

"We hope that this new confidence in our redoubled efforts will soon be followed by a similar attitude by the rest of the international financial community," the minister said.

Gonzalez introduced himself as "a minister who represents impoverished and indebted countries which are confronting several difficulties, many of which are the result of inappropriate policies among other factors."

[Words indistinct] noted that in those countries, "the people fervently wish to change the difficult situation that they are experiencing."

"Our countries have to adjust their economies in an unfavorable international context," Gonzalez went on, adding that "the growth of industrialized countries has decelerated, while international interest rates are increasing and our products—for which there is a reduced demand because of protectionist practices—are being sold at low prices."

He said "prospects are not encouraging," because "developed countries today seem to be more concerned about reducing the danger of an inflationary outbreak than about the risk of recession."

He stressed, "Today we see that excessive emphasis has been placed on restrictive monetary policies. Such policies by the industrialized countries are inappropriate answers to the reduction of interests on savings. We also see the absence of appropriate structural reforms or fiscal policies."

Gonzalez said "economic growth should be a priority objective for developed countries. They should also open their markets, without restrictions, to products from other countries."

Menem on Montoneros Participation in Government

PY0805135490 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1808 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 May (NA)—President Carlos Menem ruled out the possibility that some member of the Montoneros organization will take part in the government "for the time being." He said that he is not aware that its leaders "have made a request in this regard."

Asked about the significance he assigns to the formal joining of the Montoneros to the Justicialist Party, Menem said: "I am convinced that the number of people

who will follow them will not be very significant." In statements to Radio El Mundo Menem said that the Montoneros "are working within the law, which they have fully accepted." He added that "this is a very important step that seeks to bring tranquillity to the Argentine community."

He noted "we should recall that the Montoneros have carried out legal activities since 1983. Proof of this is that they worked in the Justicialist Party elections and in the presidential campaign."

Navy Incorporates Missile-Launching Corvette

PY0805171890 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 6 May 90 p 5

[Text] Bahia Blanca (TELAM)—The Parker corvette, equipped with Exocet missile launchers, was officially incorporated into the Sea Fleet during a ceremony held on 5 May at the inner harbor of the Puerto Belgrano Naval Base.

The ceremony was attended by Sea Fleet Commander Rear Admiral Raul Jose Cao. After the National Anthem was sung, Rear Admiral Carlos Luis Alfonso, general director of the Navy Materiel, delivered a speech.

The document ordering the incorporation of the corvette was read, and the boat was christened.

The Parker corvette is an excellent high-speed warship, considering its antisurface, antiaircraft, and antisubmarine capacity.

Meanwhile, a troop formation was held yesterday shortly after 0800 at the Commander Espora Air Naval Unit to mark Naval Aviation Day.

A speech was read during the ceremony presided over by Navy Captain Jorge Luis Colombo, the commander of the No. 2 Naval Air Unit.

Naval Aviation Day was established to recall the date on which the British Royal Navy missile destroyer Sheffield was sunk during the Malvinas war.

Brazil

Environmental Recovery Project To Be Implemented

PY0905013490 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] National Environment Secretary Jose Lutzemberger said today that Brazil's image abroad in the environmental area has been changed. He made this assertion as he evaluated his recent trip to the United States, where he participated in the international congressional meeting held in Washington to discuss climate changes around the world.

According to Lutzemberger, Brazil had the image of a villain internationally, mainly in matters related to the Amazonas region. Now Brazil is in a good situation because it has a government that will make a serious effort to defend the environment.

For Secretary Jose Lutzemberger, the nations of the First, Second, and Third Worlds should seek dialogue as a way to save the planet from problems that affect the world, such as pollution. Professor Lutzemberger said that beginning next month, the agencies responsible for the environment, in connection with the Armed Forces and the Federal Police, will oversee the Amazonas region to stop forest fires and predatory surface mining activities.

As for the paving and broadening of Highway BR 364, a project that contemplates an outlet to the Pacific Ocean through Acre State and Peru, Secretary Lutzemberger said that he does not oppose the project, but the current conditions that can worsen the ecological disaster in the Amazon region.

The largest project of environmental recovery in the world will be implemented in the surface mining site of Bom Futuro, in Rondonia, by the Infrastructure Ministry. The Bom Futuro surface mining site has 5,000 hectares that are totally devastated. Their recovery will demand investments of up to $30 million. Infrastructure Minister Ozires Silva will inspect the situation at Bom Futuro as the largest environmental recovery project in the world is initiated. Dams will be built to retain whatever remains from the exploitation of cassiterite [tin-bearing ore], and studies will be conducted to improve the percentage of tin recovery and to legalize the mining enterprises.

The IDB [Inter-American Development Bank] will participate in the Bom Futuro mining site recovery project. This project might serve as a model for the recovery of all surface mining areas in Brazil, which are devastated and contaminated with mercury. The federal government considers the Bom Futuro surface mining site to be of strategic value. It produces 20,000 tons of tin per year, representing 50 percent of the national production.

Infrastructure Minister on Privatization Process

PY0905015690 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Infrastructure Minister guarantees that privatization process will be conducted openly. Infrastructure Minister Ozires Silva admitted that the privatization process has not yet begun in earnest for the lack of legal instruments. After affirming that all state-owned companies can be privatized, with the exemption of those whose privatization is legally restricted, Ozires Silva said that the government is determined to privatize them through an open process.

[Begin Silva recording] On the federal government's part there is a strong desire to move in that direction, but obviously we have to satisfy Brazilian society because these assets belong to the Brazilian people, and they

cannot be disposed of carelessly, without proper evaluation through an open process so that Brazilian society may know what we are doing. [end recording]

The infrastructure minister gave a talk at the Rio Grande do Sul Industries Federation to more than 400 businessmen, and also he participated in the Third Freedom Forum where options for the modernization of Latin America were discussed.

Increased Drug Production in Sao Paulo State

PY0805202890 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 6 May 90 p 40

[Text] Sao Paulo State is currently the most important drug corridor in the world according to Police Commissioner Roberto Precioso Junior, member of the Federal Police Narcotics Repression Department. Reports issued by the Sao Paulo Narcotics Research Department (Denarc) say that in the interior of Sao Paulo state there are at least 20 laboratories to refine cocaine paste. These laboratories are capable of producing 20 kg of cocaine per day. This means they can produce 12 tons of cocaine per month, a gram of cocaine for every Sao Paulo citizen.

Considering that the cocaine sold to consumers is a mixture containing only about 30 grams of pure cocaine, it can be stated that Sao Paulo State is responsible for monthly producing 40 tons of the cocaine that is later distributed to drug addicts.

The police hope that the Justice Ministry will soon adopt new measures to combat drugs. On 7 May, Rubens Machado, the Sao Paulo State justice secretary, will meet with Justice Minister Bernardo Cabral to discuss several suggestions that were made to Sao Paulo legal experts on this issue. Among them are to increase the prison terms for drug traffickers and to exempt drug consumers from prison.

In addition to drug trafficking and drug use, Sao Paulo municipal authorities are also concerned about another problem: The relation between the number of drug addicts and the number of AIDS victims. According to what Maria Izabel de Andrade e Silva, the regional health office director, has said in Presidente Prudente, tests carried out in Assis have disclosed that 46 AIDS victims have contracted the disease by injecting cocaine in their veins. The regional health epidemiology control group in Ribeirao Preto confirmed that 78 percent of AIDS cases occur among those who inject cocaine in their veins.

One of the main drug trafficking routes in Sao Paulo state is the so-called "Peasant Route". It starts at Bauru and goes on to Botucatu, through Sao Pedro, Piracicaba, Limeira, Americana and Campinas. In addition to the drugs that come from Sao Paulo State, the drugs that arrive at Bauru comes from laboratories in Mato Grosso, and Rio de Janeiro, passing through Ribeirao Preto. Generally, it is transported on cars and trucks. But many times drug traffickers use airplanes and even the "Death Train" [not further identified] which comes from Bolivia and passes through Mato Grosso.

As a result of the "Peasant Route" cocaine consumption in Sao Paulo State has increased. Research carried out between 1988 and 1989 in Campinas by lawyer Fortunato Antonio Badan Palhares shows that in 1989 cocaine consumption increased 50 percent, while marijuana consumption decreased 20 percent. The research team interviewed 450 youngsters ranging between 14 and 16 years of age. It concluded that the main drug consumers belong to classes B and C [not further identified]. In the majority of municipalities, the police complain about the lack of personnel and equipment to combat drug trafficking. This is why there are rarely important arrests.

Bank of Brazil Eliminating Over 17,000 Jobs

PY0805035290 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 7 May 90

[Report by Sonia Filgueiras]

[Excerpts] The Bank of Brazil administrative reorganization, which has just started, will include the elimination of 17,800 positions. According to Bank of Brazil Chairman Alberto Policaro, the elimination of these positions is part of a group of measures that includes the dismantling of 20 departments and 61 divisions, and the reassignment of some 3,000 clerks who worked for the central board and will now work at office counters.

Alberto Policaro stated, as a result of this reorganization, the bank will save 642-million cruzeiros, which represent 3.5 percent of expenses, in salaries alone every month. Policaro said there will be no dismissals [as heard] because the offices need more employees, and the strategy is to reassign the clerks. [passage omitted]

Within the framework of the administrative reorganization, the Bank of Brazil board is analyzing the implementation of other measures to reduce expenses, including the sale of at least 1,200 of the 1,400 buildings that belong to the bank and even the closing of some offices. According to Policaro, in some cities, the state-owned banks compete among themselves, thus causing losses.

Economy Minister Returns From United States

PY0805183290 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 1600 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Economy Minister Zelia Cardoso de Mello arrived early this morning from the United States. She said in Brasilia that an IMF mission will come to Brazil next June and that her ministry has already estimated when it will obtain a new IMF loan.

[Begin Cardoso recording] The IMF mission should arrive during the first half of June, and it will work on our figures for about a week or 10 days. The mission will then return to the United States to prepare a final report which could be ready by the end of June. Since the U.S.

holiday season extends from July to August, we believe that an agreement with the fund could be signed in September. [end recording]

Southeastern Military Chief Assumes Command

PY0805154290 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 5 May 90 p A-4

[Summary] Army General Pedro de Araujo Braga, 63, on 4 May took over as head of the Southeastern Military Command. Gen. Braga will remain in this post until March 1991.

Chile

Pinochet Urged To Defend His Government

PY0805041890 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 7 May 90

[Excerpt] If General Pinochet is not satisfied with the political leadership of President Patricio Aylwin, he can withdraw from the Army to enter the political arena and defend his government. This statement has been made by Senator Jose Ruiz di Giorgio, referring to the reported uneasiness existing within the Army. He added that the Armed Forces, and particularly the commanders in chief, must respect the institutional system they have themselves established for the country. It establishes obedience of the Armed Forces to the established civil power.

[Begin di Giorgio recording] I think that if General Pinochet is not satisfied with President Aylwin's political leadership, and he is willing to defend his government, because he feels that there are things that affect his government, well, I think he has the pan by the handle, as we say in Chile. If he wants to defend his government, he must leave the Army and enter the political arena. However, if he does not leave the Army, he must fully abstain from making any political statement. He cannot take any political action as long as he remains as commander in chief of the Army. [end recording]

In his public remarks, General Pinochet has not referred to political matters so far, Di Giorgio said. He added that some sectors of the Armed Forces might be uncomfortable with the creation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. [passage omitted]

Economy Minister on Taxes, Terrorist Escalade

PY0805142890 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 7 May 90

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Economy Minister Carlos Ominami said the government will receive more funds as a result of the increase in the profit taxes being paid by companies.

Commenting on the fact that the readjustment process is beginning to yield results, the economy minister said: [Begin Ominami recording] All the figures on the economic activities in the country show that the economy is adjusting to a level of activity consistent with the conditions prevailing in the field of investments. Concerning the [word indistinct] foreign sector, the level of activity is between four and five percent. This is indicated by all the economic variables available today. This encourages me to be fairly optimistic regarding the results this adjustment process will finally produce. [end recording]

The economy minister was asked if the government is concerned about the issue of construction. He said he was, adding that every effort is being made to make this process less costly.

Ominami ruled out the alleged terrorist escalation against the business sector. He added, however, that if this were so, every precaution would be taken to prevent regrettable incidents. He added that in the face of incidents the government would act very strongly.

Humanist Party-Green Party Alliance Registers

PY0805190490 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 7 May 90

[Report by Raul Pena Thayer]

[Text] A Humanist Party-Green Party alliance has been established by its official registration at the electoral court, which will take five days to approve or reject the pertinent petition.

The petition requesting the merger also calls for the abrogation of the former registration that was presented by Humanist Party President Laura Rodriguez and Green Party President (Roberto Schultz) to Juan Ignacio Garcia, the electoral court director [as heard].

It was established that, by registering as an alliance, the two parties must exceed the five-percent membership required by the organizational law on political parties. The two parties will also exercise their right to register again as separate parties, and will begin that process next Wednesday [9 May].

Deputy Laura Rodriguez, the provisional president of this new alliance, gave the reasons behind this new coalition, which seeks to meet legal standards.

[Begin Rodriguez recording] The Humanist-Green Alliance [Alianza Humanista-Verde] emerges in a world that is experiencing strong advancements and profound transformations that are becoming increasingly difficult to interpret by the traditional political ideologies because of their mechanistic view of human life and their inability to perceive the world as a whole. [end recording]

(Roberto Schultz) and Tomas Bize were appointed as vice presidents, Mario Aguilar as general secretary, and Jaime Noriega as treasurer.

As a result of the registration period deadline established for the political parties to meet legal standards, it was announced that the National Party, the National Vanguard Party, the Radical Democratic Party, the Free Democratic Center, and a faction of the Party of the South would merge within the next few hours. It was also announced that the Liberal Democratic Party would merge with the other party of the South faction.

Colombia

Drug Cartel Official Accused in Assassinations

PA0905031690 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2304 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Bogota, 2 May (DPA)—According to preliminary official investigations, the Medellin Cartel's current "military chief," Fidel Castano Gil, appears to have been the intellectual author of the assassinations of left-wing Colombian presidential candidates Bernardo Jaramillo Ossa and Carlos Pizarro Leongomez.

In today's edition, the morning newspaper LA PRENSA, citing authorized sources, states that the assassinations were planned in December 1989 at a farm belonging to Castano Gil, aka "Rambo," top leader of the extreme-right paramilitary groups financed by the drug trafficking mafia.

Patriotic Union (UP) candidate Jaramillo Ossa was riddled with bullets in Bogota's airport by a 15-year-old adolescent who was wounded and captured by secret agents during an attack on 22 March.

In addition, 19 April Movement (M-19) candidate Pizarro Leongomez was gunned down on 26 April by a 20-year-old mercenary who was shot by bodyguards while traveling in an airplane.

According to preliminary investigations, the two gunmen were personal friends and worked in the same place, where they were contacted by well-known mercenaries working for Castano Gil.

Authorities do not rule out the possibility that the paramilitary leader, the successor to Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha—second leader of the Medellin Cartel who was killed in December 1989—carried out the attacks without previously consulting the drug trafficking organization's top leader, Pablo Escobar Gaviria.

Escobar Gaviria issued communiques to the media and to a police officer denying any participation, whatsoever, in the two attacks.

Fighting Reported in Several Departments

PA0805141190 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1215 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Bogota—Army and police personnel are carrying out a search operation in rural areas of Santander, Norte de Santander, Cordoba, and Cauca Departments and in Arauca Intendancy, following various clashes between guerrillas and soldiers that claimed the lives of 18 guerrillas and one soldier. In addition, an Ecopetrol [Colombian Petroleum Enterprise] helicopter was downed in one of the guerrilla attacks.

An official report indicates that in Catatumbo region, on the border between Norte de Santander and Arauca, ELN [National Liberation Army] rebels shot down an Ecopetrol helicopter. Ecopetrol will soon issue a communique on the fate of the helicopter and the persons aboard it. In (Santa Fe de Realito), Tierra Alta Municipality, southern Cordoba, Mobile Unit No. 1 soldiers clashed with the EPL [Popular Liberation Army] and 10 guerrillas were killed. Serviceman Miller Pascuas Perdomo was also killed in this operation. Military authorities seized weapons, ammunition of different calibers, and other materials. In addition, in Monte Libano, Betulia Municipality, Santander, (Deluyer Battalion) soldiers killed five FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia] rebels and arrested two others.

Finally, a 3rd Army Division patrol clashed with a FARC force in (Loma Redonda), Toribio Municipality, Southern Cauca. As a result of the fighting, three rebels were killed, and explosives were seized.

Car Bomb Explodes in Risaralda; One Killed

PA0805130790 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1213 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] One person was killed, five were injured—including a minor— and heavy damage was reported as the result of a terrorist attack with a car bomb against the office of Risaralda's Department Registry Office, located in downtown Pereira City. According to the official report, unidentified persons parked a Dodge car loaded with 200 kilos of dynamite outside the Registry Office, located on 30 de Agosto Avenue and 42nd Street.

Commercial pilot Diego Munoz, who lived near the Civil State Registry Office, was killed in the explosion while he was parking his car in his garage. Injured were Gustavo Munoz Giraldo, the victim's father, Registry Office watchman Dumas Salazar, Santiago Tello, 13, William Hoyos, and Ofelia Ramirez. Authorities reported that the Registry Office and two nearby homes were heavily damaged. The Munoz family lived in one of those homes.

Risaralda Police Commander Colonel Gabriel Alfonso Granados told RCN [Radio Cadena Nacional] that the authorities this morning arrested a minor, who has not been identified, following the car-bomb explosion. A preliminary assessment sets the damage caused by the explosion at 150 million pesos. An extraordinary security council, summoned by the area's authorities, will establish control measures to curb the upsurge in violence in the region.

Paraguay

Rodriguez Supports Antidrug Fight in Colombia

PY0805040290 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 7 May 90 p 58

[Text] In a communique released this morning, the president of the Republic refers to the struggle against drug trafficking being waged by the Colombian Government. The communique reads:

"The president of the Republic, Army General Andres Rodriguez, expresses his concern over the bloody events that are causing pain for the government and the brotherly people of Colombia, who with so much courage are waging an unrelenting struggle against drug trafficking, aiming at its elimination.

"In these circumstances, the president of the Republic wishes to express his total support for the unanimous determination of the government and brotherly people of Colombia to fight and eradicate drug trafficking, as well as his repudiation of the violent actions of those who, turning their back on justice and history, want to defend vice and crime with the most abominable means."

So concludes the brief communique from the presidential office.

Peru

Vargas Llosa Resumes Race, Criticizes Fujimori

PY0805220690 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1864 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Lima, 8 May (AFP)—Writer Mario Vargas Llosa today accused Alberto Fujimori, his opponent in the Peruvian presidential campaign, of representing the "continuation of (President) Alan Garcia's demagogic policy."

More aggressive than the past few weeks, Vargas Llosa visited a shantytown in Lima, and asked for "an intelligent, not an emotional vote, because the future of Peru is at stake."

"We must not be deceived by those who, with other faces and other names, represent the continuation of Alan Garcia's demagogic policy," Vargas Llosa said refering to Fujimori, the Change 90 candidate, who has been repeatedly accused of having ties with the ruling APRA [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance] party.

Vargas Llosa, who is personally dedicated to the poorest sectors in this campaign for the runoff election, claimed to be representative of the "authentic change without privileges, without immorality or improvisation, working shoulder to shoulder with the poor."

As candidate of the liberal Fredemo (Democratic Front), Vargas Llosa will confront Fujimori on 3 or 10 June, depending on the date when the National Election Board (JNE) releases the official results of the 8 April elections. So far 99.89 percent of the votes have been counted, and the final result in Lima is 35.3 percent for Vargas Llosa and 31.38 percent for Fujimori.

The predictions, of the continuation of Alan Garcia's government by Fujimori, by Fredemo and some analysts have been taken from the latest remarks and campaign speeches made by Fujimori. For example, a member of Fredemo's economic team, Gerard Giglio, has said that Change 90 sources pointed out that the fiscal deficit is not necessarily an inflationary factor. "That is the same theory defended by Alan Garcia's advisers and which has led us to the current crisis," he said.

Fujimori is continuously urged to present his government plan. He is often reproached for preparing it only now; for taking parts of the APRA program, such as the refusal to sell public enterprises; and for being inclined to a gradualistic and heterodox economic plan with a preliminary readjustment, as in the beginning of the APRA government.

However, Fujimori has proven to be handling the situation very well, because on Monday [7 May] he talked with an orthodox economist, Alejandro Toledo, who defends a shock treatment for the economy and who harshly criticizes the gradual adjustment policy.

According to their supporters, the two candidates have agreed to hold a public debate, although they have not yet set a date nor the way it will be held. According to some observers, this will be the last opportunity for Vargas Llosa to deliver a blow that will leave his opponent out of the race and will allow him to regain the four-point advantage Fujimori is currently holding in the polls.

FRG Foreign Ministry Official Meets Fujimori

PY0805160090 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 8 May 90

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Change 90 presidential candidate Alberto Fujimori held a one-hour meeting with FRG Ambassador (Johannes von Bachan) and (Gerald Henz), the FRG Foreign Ministry Foreign Affairs Department Chief [title as heard].

[Begin recording] [(Henz)] I have found out a little bit about the country's situation as well as about Mr. Fujimori [words indistinct] our conversation.

The purpose of my trip is to find out about the current situation in Peru, which I believe is difficult. This is why we have come to visit Mr. Fujimori. We will also visit Mr. Vargas Llosa. This morning I will also talk with the Peruvian (?social security) minister.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] foreign assistance from your country?

[(Henz)] Well, we will surely talk about this, but first we must have a clear idea about the new government's policy.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] Germany to us Peruvians. I believe that this would be very important.

[(Henz)] Well, as I have just said, we can notice that Peru is going through a very important democratic phase. We must now await the decision that the Peruvian people will make.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] here with Mr. Fujimori. What is your impression, sir?

[(Henz)] Well, it is a little bit difficult to form an impression after a meeting that lasted less than one hour. We visited him in his capacity as a Peruvian presidential candidate. He told us that his policy will be to serve the country [words indistinct].

[Reporter] The Cambio 90 government policy?

[(Henz)] We talked about this problem, but I believe that it is Mr. Fujimori who ...

[Reporter, interupting] ....at this moment a German (?loan) to the Peruvian Government? Will it be granted?

[(Henz)] There is an important project, especially in the field of technical assistance to the agricultural sector ... [recording ends abruptly]

Government Announces Three Cabinet Changes

PY0905030290 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0230 GMT 9 May 90

[Text] The government announced changes in the Cabinet today. Deputy Joffre Fernandez was appointed justice minister; Deputy Mercedes Cabanillas will return to her previous position as education minister; and Augusto Valqui Mallqui, president of Corpac [Corporation for Airports and Commercial Aviation], was appointed minister of transportation and communications.

The newly-appointed ministers will be sworn in by President Alan Garcia at noon on 9 May.